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# ARAB TIMES

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### Celebrations will display loyalty: Information Minister

KUWAIT, Feb. 21, (KUNA): Information Minister, Chairman of the Committee for celebrating the National Day, Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah today said that this year's celebrations will display the spirit of loyalty to Kuwait as well as representing the national unity under the country's wise leadership.

He added the sincere and true feelings of Kuwait's sons were reflected in forms of their celebrations as well as the pride and joy which prevailed country-wide.

Sheikh Jaber concluded by praying to the Almighty Allah "to safeguard our country and guide us all to build Kuwait's future."

### Kuwaitis live long

GENEVA, Feb. 21, (KUNA): Kuwaiti men are among the longest living males anywhere in the world, with a life expectancy of 72.5 years, longer than their counterparts in most of the rich industrialised nations, according to statistics from the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The figures, extracted by KUNA from the WHO's 1988 annual statistical report, show that Kuwaiti women can also expect to live longer than their sisters in most other countries, and longer than their men, at an average 75.8 years.

Kuwaiti men live longer than US males, who have life expectancies of 71.4 years. The Kuwaiti males also live longer than West Germans, British, Italians or Irish, all of whom can expect between 70 and 72 years of life.

Kuwaiti women, although well above average world-wide, fall behind their West European

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آج کے درویشوں کی حالت

○ ایران نے یورپی برادری سے سفارتکاروں کو بلانے کی درخواست کی

○ نیجیب حکومت کے خلاف سازش ناکام بنادی گئی

○ عرب لیگ کمیٹی کے لبنان رہنماؤں سے ملاقات

○ راجو کی کابینہ میں تبدیلیوں کی تردید

○ سوڈان کے وزیر دفاع نے استعفیٰ دے دیا

○ نیوزی لینڈ میں عبدالقادر کی تباہ کن ہولناکی

○ مکتوب جہ

**WEATHER**

CLOUDY and rainy weather will continue with light variable northerly wind.

State of sea: moderate

High water: 2.00 pm

Low water: 8.00 am, 7.00 pm

Sunrise: 6.22 am

Sunset: 5.42 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 18°C 57°F

Ahmad: 13°C 55°F

Fallaka: 12°C 54°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 11°C 52°F

Ahmad: 14°C 57°F

Fallaka: 13°C 55°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 15°C 59°F

Ahmad: 14°C 57°F

Fallaka: 13°C 55°F

Maximum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 92 per cent

Ahmad: 88 per cent

Fallaka: 86 per cent

## Arab committee meets religious leaders

# Last chance to save Lebanon, says Sabah

KUWAIT, Feb. 21, (Agencies): An Arab League panel led by Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed held separate closed-door sessions with six Lebanese religious leaders today on ways of ending their country's 14-year civil war.

But a planned round-table conference grouping the seven-member Arab League panel and the Muslim and Christian clerics from Lebanon's largest religious factions was again postponed on the second day of the talks.

**Warned**

Sheikh Sabah, warned it could be the last chance to save Lebanon from splitting apart.

"If the Lebanese do not take advantage of the spirit of international harmony and do not benefit from the efforts of the Arab League committee, then the chance may not return," he told the clerics.

He said Lebanon risked being torn apart unless its leaders quickly revived the country's political institutions and removed the causes of civil war.

Sheikh Sabah told reporters after discussions with each of the clerics that he was optimistic about reaching a solution to the Lebanese crisis.

Asked when would the round-table meeting be held, he said it was up to the Arab League Secretary-General Chedli Klibi.

"There is always a hope in reaching a solution. If we had lost such hope, we would not have met," Sheikh Sabah said.

The round-table session at first was set for Monday and then postponed for today.

**Objectives**

Sheikh Sabah said the first round of Lebanon talks, held in Tunis last month with the Christian, Sunni and Shiite Muslim political leaders had shown "complete harmony on objectives though means were different."

"We hope this meeting will achieve further steps towards reconciliation and the purported solution. We are more optimistic as we meet with the spiritual leaders," he said.

He added: "All the parties are in agreement on the need to foster Lebanon's unity, independence, sovereignty and keenness to play an outstanding role within the Arab nation and carry out its human message within a framework of coexistence for all sects and factions."

The talks are focussed on an

Arab working paper outlining a possible settlement to the eastern Mediterranean country's civil strife, further complicated five months ago when the Lebanese Parliament failed to elect a successor to outgoing President Amin Gemayel.

Present in Kuwait are Maronite Patriarch Butros Sfeir; Roman Catholic Patriarch Maximus Hakim; Vice-President of the Supreme Shiite Muslim Council, Sheikh Mehdi Shamseddine; Sunni Muslim grand mufti, Sheikh Hassan Khaled; the supreme religious judge of the Druze community, Sheikh Mursel Nasr; and the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch, Ignatius Hazim.

**Unified**

The Muslim and Christian clerics met in two separate groups last night, each side working out unified stands in dealing with the committee, said the sources, who spoke on condition they not be named.

The league panel — which groups the foreign ministers of Tunisia, Algeria, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Sudan and Kuwait, as well as Secretary-General Chedli Klibi — also met to discuss the Arab working paper with a team of Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry experts.

The Kuwait News Agency said the experts lined up the working paper on basis of the Lebanese constitution of 1926. The Maronites have traditionally held key posts in Lebanon and Muslims have demanded a share of the power that reflects their larger population.

In various statements published in Kuwaiti newspapers, the visiting Lebanese clerics were in agreement on the necessity of ending the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory and ending the "foreign presence" in their country, but they do not directly mention Syria.

**Crisis**

"A way out of the crisis lies in pushing out those who created it," Patriarch Ignatius Hazim was quoted as saying. The newspapers said he was alluding to the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon.

Maronite Patriarch Sfeir also said the Israeli occupation "should be tackled on basis of UN Security Council Resolution 425 which calls for Israel's withdrawal."

Sheikh Shamseddine said the Lebanese parties are discussing with the Arab panel "the Israeli factor and its impact on the Lebanese crisis."

### Meeting between officers postponed

## Iran frees 80 Iraqi POWs

BAGHDAD, Feb. 21, (AP): Eighty sick and wounded Iraqi prisoners of war arrived here today after being released by Iran, with some dropping to kiss the ground as they stepped off the plane.

Also today, a United Nations official said here the first meeting between Iraqi and Iranian officers under UN auspices, scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed indefinitely.

The UN official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the two countries could not agree on where the mixed military group should meet within the ceasefire line on their joint border.

A spokesman for the UN observers said on Sunday the officers were supposed to meet along the road between the Iraqi town of Khanaqin and the Iranian border town of Qasr-e-Shirin in the central sector of the Gulf war front. The meeting was to be supervised by Maj. Gen. Slavko Jovic, commander of the United Nations monitors.

**Refused**

The official refused to say which country expressed reservations on the meeting venue, but said UN observers are trying to work out a solution.

The military officials were supposed to handle issues arising from the implementation of the ceasefire agreement. Both governments agreed to participate in the group during a late January mission by UN special envoy Jan Eliasson.

The 80 prisoners were the first group of a total 260 sick and wounded POWs Iran said it would free earlier this month to mark the 10th anniversary of its revolution.

They arrived in a jet chartered by the International Committee of the Red Cross. An ICRC spokesman said the operation went smoothly and without difficulties.

Iraqi officials at Baghdad International Airport said the Iraqis originally informed the Red Cross they would repatriate 83 prisoners, but later said that three had asked for political asylum.

A senior Iraqi officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Red Cross informed them that 16 of the 260 prisoners opted to stay in Iran.

The Iraqi POWs, wearing grey track suits, were sealed off by military police and not allowed to talk to reporters at the airport.



Sheikh Sabah, (right) with Sfeir (second left) and Klibi (left) before their talks. (Photo by Mohammed Bedaq)

### Mideast peace drive

## Shevardnadze seeks way round Israeli opposition

CAIRO, Feb. 21, (Agencies): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze today sought a way to overcome one of the chief obstacles to his Middle East peace drive — Israeli opposition to an international conference.

The issue was the focus of a second meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Maguid.

A ministry official said: "The two countries agreed on the importance of activating the Israeli position and convincing Israel of the importance of peace."

**Spelled**

Shevardnadze on the third stop of his Middle East mission has scheduled separate meetings in Cairo tomorrow with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and, several hours later, with PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

Israel's resistance to PLO involvement in the peace process was spelled out today by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who is visiting France.

On his arrival in Paris, Shamir described the PLO as "a very big obstacle to peace."

Attempts by any nation to

reinforce the PLO position would be resisted as detrimental to the cause of peace, he said.

The Soviet blueprint outlined by Shevardnadze is based on a Middle East peace conference sponsored by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and attended by the PLO.

Israel rejects the idea of a full-fledged international gathering and wants direct talks with Arab states sponsored only by the United States and the Soviet Union.

The Israelis, ahead of the Shevardnadze-Arens meeting, have shown more interest in prospects of restoring ties with the Soviet Union, cut by Moscow during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

**Warned**

In Jerusalem, Shamir said before leaving for France every meeting brought Israel and the Soviet Union closer to resuming relations.

Some analysts in Cairo saw Shevardnadze's scheduled talks with Arens at the Soviet embassy residence — technically Soviet territory — as symbolising

Soviet readiness to resume ties.

But Egyptian officials said Moscow did not plan to restore ties until Israel accepted proposals for a conference attended by the PLO.

Meanwhile, a senior Palestinian official warned the Soviet Union today against restoring ties with Israel before Washington and the Jewish state commit themselves to an international Middle East peace conference attended by the PLO.

Yasser Arafat-Rabbou, head of the PLO's information department and a member of the movement's ruling 15-man executive committee, also accused Washington of stalling in talks with the PLO to gain time for Israel to crush a 14-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Washington is pushing Moscow into an unconditional resumption of ties with Israel, offering in return only promises of a wider Soviet role in the Middle East," he said in a telephone interview from the PLO's headquarters in Tunis.

"We don't believe the Soviets will fall into this trap," he said.

### Mubarak expects Bush to play effective role

ABU DHABI, Feb. 21, (UPI): Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said in remarks published today he expected US President Bush to play an "effective role" in resolving the Middle East conflict similar to that of former President Carter.

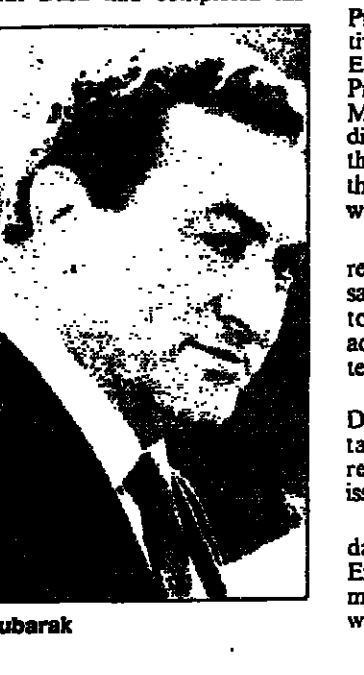
But Mubarak told the United Arab Emirates semi-official newspaper Al Itihad such an involvement might have to wait until Bush had completed his

evaluation of the situation in the troubled region.

"President Bush understands well the issue ... but he is a man who does not rush into taking decisions," Mubarak said.

"Some people might say he is slow in taking decisions, but in fact he studies and makes a full evaluation of the situation before considering his moves," he added.

"God willing, I expect President Bush to play an effective role in solving the Middle East problem, just as former President Jimmy Carter did," Mubarak said referring to the US direct involvement in the past that culminated in the signing of the Camp David peace treaty with Israel in 1979.



Mubarak

### 13 killed in 200-vehicle pile-up in Italy

PIACENZA, Italy, Feb. 21, (AP): Nearly 200 cars and trucks piled up on fog-bound highways in northern and central Italy yesterday, killing 13 people and injuring at least 100.

Police said several major pile-ups occurred near the northern city of Piacenza and near Imola and Ferrara, in central Italy. The thick fog reduced visibility to about 30 or 40 metres (yards) as the roads became jammed with heavy morning traffic.

The highways from Milan to Modena and Bologna to Ferrara — two major and busy road links — were closed to traffic for about five hours following the accidents.

Most of the injured were hospitalised in Piacenza, Reggio Emilia and Ferrara, police reported.

Large parts of Italy have been plagued by fog and smog in recent weeks, following three months without rain.

**Onassis prize**

ATHENS, Feb. 21, (Reuters): Former US Senator William Fulbright was awarded the 1989 Onassis prize "for man and mankind" today for his contribution to world education, the Onassis Foundation announced in Athens.

### Tehran to recall envoys from EEC states

## UK expels Iranian diplomat over Rushdie row

LONDON, Feb. 21, (Agencies): Diplomatic tension over Iranian death threats against British author Salman Rushdie escalated today with Britain's expulsion of Iran's charge d'affaires and Iran's announcement that it will recall its ambassadors from 12 European Economic Community countries.

Many Muslims consider Rushdie's book, *The Satanic Verses*, blasphemous to Islam.

Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe's announcement came hours after the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported Iran was recalling its senior diplomats from the 12 EEC countries, including Britain.

**Decision**

Iran's move was in retaliation for yesterday's decision by the European governments to bring home their ranking envoys from Tehran.

"It is neither possible nor sensible to conduct a normal relationship with Iran," Howe told the House of Commons today. "The Iranian government has been asked to withdraw their charge d'affaires and the one other Iranian-based member of his staff from London."

Howe acknowledged that Britain's action "inevitably reduces our ability" to secure the release of Britons missing in Lebanon and of British businessman Roger Cooper, who has been imprisoned in Tehran for three years on spying charges.

Britain reopened its mission in Tehran in December for the first time in eight years, staffing it with three diplomats and two support staff.

Elsewhere, Austria and Australia summoned the Iranian ambassadors in their countries to express concern over Khomeini's call for Rushdie's death.

**Threat**

In Washington, US President George Bush said he backed European countries that have withdrawn their ambassadors from Iran.

Norway and Sweden became the first non-EEC members to pull their envoys from Iran.

Danish Ambassador Hans Grunnet became the first EEC envoy to leave Iran today, an embassy official said in Tehran. The West German ambassador is

already in Bonn, while other EEC heads of mission were preparing to follow.

In Tehran, Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati attacked Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van Den Broek for cancelling a visit.

**Defeat**

Europe faced defeat in the clash with Iran over the British author's novel *The Satanic Verses*, Besharati said in a Tehran newspaper article quoted by the official news agency IRNA.

"And you Britain, Sweden, Denmark, Italy, Norway and (West) Germany: don't threaten us. Such threats have always brought positive results for our people and losses for you."

Rushdie himself is in hiding under police protection in Britain. The 41-year-old author, born into a Muslim Indian family, has said he regretted offending Muslims in his award-winning novel, a surreal work on good and evil.

Tehran Radio quoted Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi as saying today Khomeini's edict "will undoubtedly be carried out. ... The person who has become a tool of Zionists against Islam ... will be punished."

Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani echoed Tehran's defiance against the EEC.

"We do not fear any such threats and we are prepared to follow our own path at any costs," he told Parliament.

**Sanctions**

West Germany, which pressed hardest for EEC sanctions against Iran at the foreign ministers' meeting in Brussels yesterday, said it had shelved a cultural exchange agreement with Tehran.

The West German section of the international writers' group PEN called for economic sanction and urged French and West German publishers to put translations of *The Satanic Verses* on the market despite threats against them.

The UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar appealed today for the lifting of threats to the life and human rights of Rushdie and his associates while stressing the importance of respect for all people's religious beliefs.

### Rajiv is not planning a major cabinet reshuffle

NEW DELHI, Feb. 21, (UPI): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said today that he is not planning to overhaul his cabinet, allaying speculation that he was mulling a shakeup as part of an effort to shore up his administration in preparation for general elections.

"There is no cabinet expansion," Rajiv said in remarks to reporters after the opening of a three-month parliamentary session mainly devoted to passage of a 1989-90 budget.

The 44-year-old prime minister, however, said he might order several changes in the ranks of junior ministers to resolve "minor problems" in several government departments that have interfered with employment programmes and economic planning.

**Setback**

Rajiv's comments quashed intense speculation that he planned a major cabinet realignment to accommodate additional members of his feud-riven Congress (I) Party and reinforce his political position in preparation for parliamentary polls that must be called before the end of the year.

The speculation began after the Congress (I) Party was routed last month in assembly elections in southern Tamil Nadu state in a personal setback to the prime minister, who had campaigned extensively in a bid to reverse his flagging political fortunes.

(Continued on Page 2)

### Afghan rebels try new tack in forming interim cabinet

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 21, (Reuters): Afghan rebels, deeply at odds in their bid to form an interim government they hope will take power in Kabul, tried a new tack today.

After 10 days of a consultative council, or shura, marked by quarrels and walkouts, the seven rebel mujahideen parties based in Pakistan set a committee to work to draw up a list of ministers, delegates said.

It was not immediately clear how far the terms of reference extended for the committee comprising two members of each party. Some delegates said it had been told to start from scratch.

These delegates said they thought that meant that the nomination of Ahmad Shah to head the interim government as prime minister was no longer assured.

**Moderate**

Earlier in the shura, originally expected to last three days, Ahmad Shah was given a mandate by the seven parties to work out a cabinet list in consultation with Mohammed Nabi Mohammadi, the current chairman of their alliance.

That failed, with two moderate parties refusing to nominate candidates in protest at what their officials alleged was an attempt by fundamentalists to force through a cabinet in their own image.

Meanwhile, Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has denied official Afghan charges that Pakistan was preparing to attack Afghanistan.



contrast, Cubans lived much longer, and even longer than Kuwaitis, with an expectancy of 72.7 for men and and 76.1 for women.



## China raps Japan over war crimes

BEIJING, Feb 21, (Reuters): China today sharply criticised Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita for minimising Japan's wartime aggression, saying it would be "gross deception" to excuse Emperor Hirohito from guilt.

A strongly-worded attack by Chinese legislator and historian Liu Danian, published in major newspapers, marked the reopening of a sensitive flashpoint in relations between Beijing and Tokyo, three days before Hirohito's funeral.

The reports quoted Liu as saying Japan lacked the courage to

face history.

"If they insist that the late emperor did not bear responsibility (for the war), it will be a gross deception which nobody will believe," the People's Daily quoted Liu as saying during a meeting of the standing committee of the National People's Congress.

Takeshita last week commented that future historians would judge if Japan's role in World War Two was aggressive or not. Osamu Mimura, director of the cabinet legislative bureau, said in a separate statement to the Japanese parliament that Hirohito bore no responsibility for the war.

**Excuses**  
"Making excuses for the late emperor only signifies the lack of courage to face history. Nobody can change the nature of Japanese military aggression against China," the New China News Agency quoted Liu as saying.

Liu said official records showed Hirohito's involvement in wartime decisions and said his degree of responsibility was "not an issue to the Chinese people." Japan's invasion of China is blamed for the deaths of some 20 million Chinese.

**Guilt**  
The China Youth News yesterday published a powerful attack on Takeshita's remarks, saying older Chinese clearly remembered the "oppression, burning and killing, raking gun-fire ... and shattered families"



Takeshita: guilt

which came with Japanese occupation.

China's anger at what it perceives as Tokyo's failure to acknowledge war guilt reached a climax in 1987, the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of war, and cast a shadow over relations with Japan's former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

But the issue had appeared to have subsided during Takeshita's term of office, until this week.

Meanwhile, the Japanese government reaffirmed its stand on Japan's role in World War II and said it will seek understanding from neighbouring Asian nations.

In a meeting this morning, Takeshita, Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno and chief government spokesman Keizo Obuchi reaffirmed the government's position that Japan inflicted "grave" damage on neighbouring countries through the war, said an official of the prime minister's office.

## Strike shuts many areas

# Explosions rock Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Feb 21, (Agencies): A series of bomb and gun attacks by leftist Sinhalese rebels left at least five people injured today during a strike that disrupted commerce and transportation across many areas of Sri Lanka, authorities reported.

Police, meanwhile, said at least eight people were killed during the 24-hour period ending today by members of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP), or Peoples Liberation Front.

The deaths brought to at least 237 the number of JVP-related fatalities recorded since Feb 16, the day after President Ranasinghe Premadasa's United National Party (UNP) won an absolute majority of 125 seats in polls for the 225-member parliament, preserving its 11-year lock on power.

**Stoppage**  
The JVP, composed of leftist students and unemployed youths of the island's 11 million-strong ethnic Buddhist Sinhalese majority, pasted posters in numerous areas calling a nationwide strike today to protest the assumption of office of Premadasa's new 21-member cabinet.

**Blowtorch forced down woman's throat**  
PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island, Feb 21, (AP): As her 8-year-old son watched, a flaming blowtorch was forced down a woman's throat by a man and two teenagers apparently trying to collect a drug debt, police said.

The 38-year-old victim was hospitalised in satisfactory condition following the attack, officials said today.

Rescue workers found the woman dazed and wandering, unable to talk and pointing to her throat, said police Lt. Stephen McCartney.

Police arrested Lamont Smith, 17, and Renee White, 20, on charges of assault with intent to commit murder, McCartney said. A 16-year-old accused of taking part in the attack was arraigned as a juvenile and ordered held.

"We have some suspicion, that it's drug related," McCartney said.

Police said most shops and businesses in Colombo and many other Sinhalese-dominated areas observed the work stoppage, more out of fear of JVP reprisals than out of support for the groups goal of toppling the government and installing a Marxist-type regime.

Public transportation was also badly disrupted and while government offices remained open, attendance was poor, police said.

**Educational institutions**  
Many of them hotbeds of JVP support, were to have opened today after a 10-day closure ordered for the parliamentary elections, but extremely low attendance was reported in Colombo and its suburbs.

A senior police official said most schools in the JVP's stronghold of southern Sri Lanka remained closed.

Explosive devices set by the group exploded in several towns, most without causing casualties. But, a landmine critically injured four soldiers who were removing JVP posters from walls in the town of Matara, 160 km south of Colombo, police said.

Army munitions experts defused two crude bombs found

opposite Colombo's main bus station and two others discovered inside the city's central railway terminal, police said.

In Colombo's Panchi Borella area, JVP gunmen fired on a store that remained open in defiance of the strike, wounding the manager, police said.

JVP activists also set fire to three state-owned buses, they reported.

**Campaign**  
The strike was the latest call by the JVP in a bloody campaign of assassinations, sabotage and protests aimed at creating chaotic conditions that would allow it to launch a violent bid for power.

Thousands of people, including UNP and opposition members and supporters, security forces and public officials and employees, have died since the JVP launched its drive after the government in July 1987 signed an accord with India aimed at ending a more than five year war by separatists of the ethnic Tamil minority.

The accord granted limited self-rule to Tamil-dominated northeastern province, home to most of the 3 million-strong

mainly Hindu minority, a concession that enraged many Sinhalese, who regarded it as an Indian plot to divide the island.

The disenchantment allowed the JVP to recruit new cadres and rebuild a membership that had been decimated when the group attempted an insurrection in 1971.

**Poisoning**  
Meanwhile, a spokeswoman for the Indian High Commission said 42 members of a former Tamil guerrilla group were out of danger after being poisoned yesterday.

The members of the Eelam People's Liberation Front, which is now recognised as a political party, became ill after eating fish and vegetable curry in a hotel at Mallaitu, 195 kilometres northeast of Colombo.

The spokeswoman said doctors attached to the Indian peace-keeping force in the region treated the victims and believed all would survive.

The tests showed the food had been laced with pesticide. She said investigators blamed the Tamil Tigers.

## Geagea escapes attempt on life

BEIRUT, Feb 21, (UPI): Samir Geagea, the chief of the Christian Lebanese Forces who battled against the Lebanese Army last week, said today an attempt on his life by Army troops was a misunderstanding.

Security sources said Geagea's six-car motorcade suffered a midday ambush yesterday by unknown gunmen in the East Beirut neighbourhood of Jiser Al Basha.

They said that although the militia leader escaped unhurt, one of his bodyguards was killed and another injured.

Geagea, interviewed last night by the militia television station, LBC, described the incident as "a misunderstanding."

He said Army troops positioned in the area "did not know it was my motorcade that was passing by and a misunderstanding" between the troops and his bodyguards led to a brief firefight.

There was no comment from the Army's command.

A police spokesman said one bodyguard was killed and another was wounded when Geagea's escorts held a five-minute shootout with the ambushers who intercepted the motorcade on Jiser Al Basha highway.

He said the gunmen raked Geagea's six-vehicle motorcade as it approached an intersection in Jiser El-Basha as the militia leader headed to a meeting with Army commander Gen. Michel Aoun.

The gunmen escaped without trace and no group claimed responsibility for the attempt, the spokesman added.

He said Lebanese Army troops took charge of escorting Geagea to the meeting at the presidential Palace in East Beirut's Baabda suburb.

It was the first face-to-face meeting between the general and the militia commander since last week's bloody confrontation between Geagea's Lebanese forces militia and Aoun's Christian regular units.

The inter-Christian fighting for control of the Christian heartland east and northeast of Beirut left more than 76 people killed and 200 wounded, by police count.

### North trial

WASHINGTON, Feb 21, (AP): Oliver North, the decorated former marine at the centre of the Iran-Contra affair, was summoned before a jury today to face charges he tried to cover up former President Reagan's most embarrassing foreign policy debacle.

San Francisco lawyer John Keiser was scheduled to make opening statements for the government as the head of a team of prosecutors that has been tracking North's activities for more than two years.

Brendan Sullivan, lawyer for the fired White House aide, was expected to focus on the defence assertion that Reagan was personally involved in offering inducements to third countries to support the Contras opposing the leftist government in Nicaragua.

## Expelled villagers demonstrate in Beirut

BEIRUT, Feb 21, (Reuters): Villagers expelled from Israel's self-declared security zone in south Lebanon demonstrated in Beirut today, urging UN peace-keeping forces to help them go home.

"The UN ... are asked to guarantee a respectable and safe return for all the expelled people to their villages," one veiled woman shouted during the march through west Beirut.

Israel and its South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia allies have

this year expelled 79 people from villages near Mount Hermon.

The villagers said they were forced out after they refused to join the Christian-led SLA which patrols the 15 km (nine mile) wide zone set up by Israel in 1985 to protect its northern border from attacks by Muslim guerrillas.

"The Liberation of Shebaa and Arqoub area (in the zone) from the Israeli occupation is the duty of the UN peacekeeping force in south Lebanon," said a

banner raised by the villagers.

The UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has had 5,800 troops in south Lebanon since 1978.

A spokesman for the demonstrators said at least 20,000 people had been expelled from Arqoub since 1970, when Israel destroyed the houses of people it said helped Palestinian guerrillas.

"Till now the Israelis are still doing the same thing and nobody is reacting to our agony," he said.

## Appeal to free Belgian

BEIRUT, Feb 21, (Reuters): A Norwegian aid group appealed today to all Lebanese factions to help secure the release of a Belgian doctor who "vanished" in south Lebanon nine months ago.

"We appeal to all good forces in Lebanon to help us in our efforts to have Jan Cools released," Oyvind Segedal, an official of the Norwegian Aid Organisation said.

He told a news conference in West Beirut the charity group believed the 32-year-old doctor was still alive.

A previously unknown Muslim group calling itself Jund Al Haq claims to hold Cools, last seen leaving a Palestinian refugee

camp near the southern port of Tyre on May 21, 1988.

The group said in December it would put him on trial for spying for Western countries and Israel.

Its claim followed a statement by the radical Palestinian Fatah Revolutionary Council led by Abu Nidal denying media reports it was holding Cools.

**Contacts**

Segedal said Norwac was holding contacts with all groups, including Syria and the FRC.

"We are in touch with everyone who we think can help us. They are all very friendly. We know many, many people are working," he said.

## Aquino signs ethics bill

MANILA, Feb 21, (AP): Philippine President Corason Aquino yesterday signed into law an ethics bill that legislators said would minimise government corruption.

The new law bans the nation's 1.5 million government workers from giving and receiving gifts or favours in connection with official duties, but allows good-will grants from foreign governments.

Violators face penalties of up to five years in prison and a fine of up to 5,000 pesos (\$250).

Rep. Ramon Mitra, Speaker of the House of Representatives, told reporters after the signing that the code represents "the second part of the fight against corruption in government."

"As you know, the presidency at this time is free from any taint of corruption, and that's half of the battle won already."

Aquino vowed to check the corrupt practices that were rampant during her predecessor Ferdinand Marcos' 20 years in office. But after she became president following a popular uprising three years ago, critics charged her relatives were getting lucrative business deals.

Disgruntled military officers who have staged several failed coups have cited the President's failure to stamp out graft and corruption.

## Hong Kong to force boat people out

HONG KONG, Feb 21, (Reuters): Hong Kong may seek to empty its crowded refugee camps by forcing some Vietnamese boat people to return home, the British colony's governor said today.

Sir David Wilson, in London for talks with senior officials and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, spelled out the government's determination in an interview with Radio Hong Kong today.

"It is absolutely necessary that we should go ahead with all parts of our policy, including the mandatory return of all who are not refugees to Vietnam," he said.

**Surprise**  
Hong Kong regards many recent arrivals from Vietnam not as refugees fleeing political persecution or war, but illegal immigrants trying to escape economic hardship. About 25,000 Vietnamese are housed in camps and detention centres here.

Wilson's comments, made only a week before the first boat people are due to head back to

Hanoi from Hong Kong voluntarily, mark the first time a senior official has been so frank on the repatriation issue.

Western diplomats in the British colony said they were surprised at the outspoken nature of the governor's remarks, saying that until now officials had taken care to stress they were only trying to establish the principle of repatriation.

Previously Hong Kong officials had only said repatriation could not be ruled out as an option, but Wilson emphasised he thought there was now no choice.

Officials in Hong Kong also made it quite clear forced repatriation would apply only to boat people who arrived after June 16 last year unless they prove they are genuine refugees.

That involves about 10,500 refugees, some of whom have already agreed to return to Vietnam voluntarily. The 15,000 or so who arrived before then will continue to await resettlement in third countries.

## Bush prepares for his visit to Asian countries

WASHINGTON, Feb 21, (UPI): President Bush buddled with a group of Asia scholars at Camp David last night to prepare for his five-day Pacific trip starting Wednesday with stops in Japan, China and South Korea.

The purpose of Bush's first overseas journey is to attend the funeral of Emperor Hirohito on Friday in Tokyo where he will gather with some 150 other foreign leaders to pay tribute to the Japanese leader who died on Jan 7.

Bush's attendance at the funeral was viewed by officials as a symbolic ending of the hostility of World War II when Hirohito was considered the arch enemy. The Shinto funeral ceremonies in Shinjuku Gyoen Park are expected to last three hours.

Among the experts invited to confer with Bush at the rustic retreat in the western Maryland mountains were two political science professors from the University of California, Richard Baum and Lawrence Krause, and Harry Harding of the Brookings Institution.

Michel Oksenberg of the Centre for Chinese Studies at the University of Michigan and James Lilley, former US ambassador to Korea who is reportedly in line to be ambassador to China.

### Meetings

The 64-year-old President is scheduled to hold some 16 meetings with other heads of state in Tokyo, starting with French President Francois Mitterrand at the US embassy promptly after his arrival in Tokyo on Thursday.

Other leaders expected to meet with Bush in Tokyo include Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein.

Bush plans to hold substantial talks with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita the day of his arrival and pay a courtesy call on the new emperor, 55-year-old Akihito, before departing.

Except for the Prime Minister's reception there will be little socialising in the Japanese capital during the mourning period.

The three-day visit to China will be a sentimental journey for the Bushes who spent a year from 1974 to 1975 in Beijing when he was chief of the US liaison during the Ford administration before diplomatic relations had been established between China and the United States.

### Talks

His talks with China's leader Deng Xiaoping were considered significant in view of the warming Sino-Soviet relations and a visit by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to Beijing in May. But US officials have not evinced concern that the two communist giants are about to form a new bloc against the West.

Bush will spend only a few hours in Seoul, meeting with President Roh Tae Woo, addressing the National Assembly and meeting with the American community in the Korean capital before departing. High on the agenda will be a discussion of the possibility of a dramatic summit meeting between Roh and North Korea's long time communist strongman Kim Il Sung.

## Interpol conference begins in Nepal

KATHMANDU, Feb 21, (AP): Nepalese Prime Minister Man Singh Shrestha called today for greater co-operation among police agencies of the world to prevent and suppress international crimes, especially drug trafficking.

Shrestha told the 10th Asian regional conference of Interpol, the international criminal police organisation, that such regular regional conferences "increase the effectiveness of Interpol as an

instrument to fight against international crimes."

Shrestha made the remarks after formally inaugurating the conference, which is to discuss such subjects as drug trafficking, international terrorism and currency counterfeiting.

Ninety delegates from 30 countries are attending the four-day meeting. The last such conference was held two years ago in Tokyo.

"I am happy to see that Inter-

pol is paying greater attention to combating crimes relating to narcotic drugs. ... (However) international co-operation in this regard should be enlarged and made more effective," Shrestha said.

"A consensus is emerging among member states of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation to have a regional convention to combat the evils of drug abuse and drug trafficking," he added.

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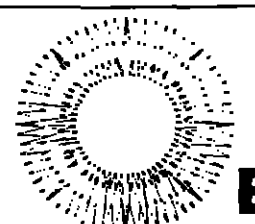
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## Awqaf minister receives Turkish envoy

KUWAIT, Feb. 21, (KUNA): Awqaf Minister for Islamic Affairs Khaled Ahmed Al Jassar today received in his office Turkey's Ambassador to Kuwait, Guner Ozek.

## MTSC systems for rent

THE Mobile Telephone Systems Company will start renting mobile telephone systems to subscribers wishing to use this new service as of next March, according to a local daily.

The new service would be available on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis. Contracts would be signed with the applicants, who will have to deposit KDI.000 as insurance amount for the service and system, the daily added.

The company would be offering three different types of telephone sets, which will include the Japanese make Go 1 and 2 and the Finnish make Mobeira Go 2, which will be rented for KDS0 to 75 monthly.

Sources close to the company say that charges per call would be 20 fils under normal circumstances and 40 fils at peak hours.

## Sheikh Salem receives Mehallan

KUWAIT, Feb. 21, (KUNA): Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah today received Director-General of the General Authority for Applied Education and Training Dr Abdul Rahman Al Mehallan, Dean of the Engineering Faculty at Kuwait University Dr. Hassan Alawi and Kuwait's Ambassador to the United Kingdom Ghazi Al Rayes.

Discussions during the separate meetings tackled issues of common interest.

## GCC mineral resources meeting

OFFICIALS and experts of mineral resources in the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) states will hold a meeting by the end of this month in Riyadh, the General Secretariat of the GCC announced.

The meeting will review GCC member states programmes of exploration, production and manufacturing of mineral resources and its ores. The meeting will also study the economic feasibility of exploring some mineral resources in some states.

It will also discuss two reports submitted by the General Secretariat — one on working out a unified system in the mining industry and the second on a project to establish an investment and industrial company in the field of mineral resources. Exchange of information and special data relating to the mining industry are also included in the meeting's agenda.

## National Day celebrations begin today on Green Island

KUWAIT, Feb. 21, (KUNA): The committee for celebrating Kuwait's 28th National Day today announced that formal and public celebrations on this occasion will start tomorrow in the Green Island along the sea front.

The event will start by hoisting Kuwait's flag in a great public ceremony to be attended by Information Minister, Chairman of the National Day Com-

## Amiri grant to be paid in one sum: Khorafi

THE Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi, said the bonus to be given as per the directives of HH the Amir will be paid only once and not as an increase in payments every month as some people wrongly believe.

The grant will be paid to all Kuwaiti employees in the state without exception including non-Kuwaitis who are entitled to social allowances. The grant will be paid before the end of this month, the official said.

In a related development, Fadel Al Rajman, the director-general of Social Securities Establishment said that the authority will be paying the Amiri grant to 35,000 retired employees. Payments will be done within the next four days. The amounts of the grant will be paid from funds of the establishment to be reimbursed by the state's treasury, the official said.



Jassem Al Khorafi

Khorafi denied that the government has any intentions to rescind on its decision to suspend its investment portfolios. The government is convinced that the reasons to suspend these portfolios are still justified.

## Municipality cleans up Abdalli agricultural area

THE Controller of the fifth Jahra area at Kuwait Municipality Hussein Al Dihani, has said that the municipality began a campaign to clean Abdalli agricultural area as of Dec 5, 1988.

The municipality is paving main and secondary roads in the area and removing garbage and other refuse from farms of the area, he said.

Dihani added that the campaign is in co-ordination with Abdalli Agricultural Society and will continue until all the needs and requirements of the farms are covered. The municipality is also co-ordinating with other

relevant ministries to develop the area, he added.

In a related development, Mohammed Habib Al Bader, deputy chairman of Abdalli Agricultural Society is planning to build a supermarket for the society.

It is also calling on relevant authorities to open branches for commercial banks, a post office and to increase police patrols to protect farmers.

Bader pointed out that his society co-operates with the municipality to print a map indicating directions of farms in the Abdalli area.

## GCC cultural committee to meet in Riyadh tomorrow

THE preparatory committee for the First Cultural Week of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) Universities is due to hold its meeting in Riyadh tomorrow, a press release issued by the GCC General Secretariat said.

It added that the committee which consists of deans of students affairs at the member states universities will debate the

activities of the week scheduled to take place in February 1990. Universities of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the UAE will participate.

The release said that the week is to be organised by King Saud University and falls within the cultural, social and sporting activities patronised by the GCC General Secretariat.

## Major afforestation responsibility lies with citizens: Awadi

THE deep foresight of HH the Amir of Kuwait towards developing and enhancing the afforestation issue has been praised by Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, Kuwait's minister of planning.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that to translate this concept into reality, the higher committee for afforestation was formed.

A major part of the afforestation responsibility lies with the citizens. Their contributions towards plantation or towards preservation of the green areas is paramount, he said.

On the policy of greenery as a means to enhance food security,

Awadi said that increasing our local produce will contribute towards reducing imports of edible commodities and assist the plan of self sufficiency in food.

A shortage of water, desertification and pollution greatly contributed to hardships and hazards in several countries of the world, the official said.

On the vital issue of desertification in the region, he said that enough appropriate attention and concern has not been reflected. Efforts should be instituted to address this vital topic, the official said.

The environment should be protected from being polluted by the dumping of wastes.



Homoud Al Rqobah (second left) with other Kuwaiti officials after the opening.

## Agreement for fresh water from Iraq may be signed soon

## Rqobah opens water and power stations in Shuaiba and Al Zour

By Fawzi Al Tamimi

KUWAIT'S Minister of Electricity and Water, Dr Homoud Al Rqobah, yesterday inaugurated the Sub Control Centre at Shuaiba Area.

In an opening speech which coincided with the country's National Day celebrations, the official told newsmen that he will visit Iraq next month to follow up on the issue of Iraq providing Kuwait with fresh water.

The relevant studies had been completed by the consultant and the supply of water from Iraq to Kuwait is expected soon. The minister may sign an agreement to this effect during his visit.

The minister said that the new Sub Control Centre had been designed to serve the area situated south of the Sixth Ring Road and is designed to control about 120 stations.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by the Ministry Undersecretary Mohammed Abdullah Al Munayes, the assistant undersecretaries and the director of public relations department at the ministry.

In a related development the minister also inaugurated yesterday the south Al Zour Power and Water Distillation Station.

**Demand**  
Speaking on the occasion, the official said that this station had been designed to provide electrical energy and fresh water in conjunction with other stations working in the country to meet the increasing demand for electricity and fresh water.

The new station is one of the country's major stations and will provide the country with 2,400 megawatts making the country's total energy production 7,200 megawatts. The new station includes a gas turbine unit with a capacity of 111 megawatts.

Rqobah said that the station includes eight distillation units which are capable of producing about 48 million imperial gallons daily. It has the capacity to be increased to about 57.6 million imperial gallons daily. The station could accommodate the construction of another eight distillation units. The total cost of the station amounted to KD450 million.

The implementation process of the project started on April 15 1982 and the first vaporific unit was opened in 1986. Other units were operated consecutively and the last was opened on October 24, 1988.

**Projects**  
The inauguration ceremony was attended by the Governor of Ahmadi Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem, the Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Mohammed Sayed Abdul Mohsen Al Rifai, the Ministry of Electricity and Water undersecretary and assistant undersecretaries at the ministry.

Speaking on the Subiya electricity project, the minister said that the relevant contract had been concluded with one of the industrial companies for providing necessary turbines. The project is expected to be completed by the beginning of 1993, the official said.

On the total blackout that occurred recently in Kuwait, Rqobah said that investigations had been finalised last month and the report referred to the Cabinet.

## Amiri Diwan think tank lines up recommendations to enhance role of youth

KUWAIT, Feb. 21, (KUNA): An Amiri Diwan think tank for youth care has lined up a number of recommendations, implementation of which would significantly enhance the role of youths in the nation's social and economic progress, think tank president Dr Salem Al Tahseeh said today.

Dr Tahseeh said a standing consultative committee, branching from the Amiri Diwan think tank, and seeking the advancement of youth has made the following proposals:

— Introduction of studies on patriotism and Kuwaiti society

in all school curriculums and each according to level.

— Expediency in the issuance of a law for the handicapped, drafted by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

— The launch of an educational television channel.

— Organisation of a series of

gatherings centring on youth-related issues such as drugs and alcohol addiction, moral values, and the importance of religion.

**Committee**

Dr Tahseeh pointed out that HH the Amir had ordered in 1986 establishment of the stand-

ing consultative committee for the youth.

Highlighting the committee's achievements, Dr Tahseeh said the state has endorsed committee proposals for student part-time jobs during the summer holiday.

He added that the committee had initiated efforts that led to the establishment of an exhibition of handicrafts produced by Kuwaiti youth.

Concluding Dr Tahseeh said the committee is publishing a monthly youth magazine, the first edition of which had been circulated last August.

## Drug clinic treated 45,000 patients in 1988

DR MUSTAFA Mahmoud Ibrahim, a psychiatrist at the Psychological Diseases Hospital said that a total of 45,000 patients called on the Drug Addiction Clinic last year as compared to 13,000 patients who regularly called on outpatient clinics during the same period.

Clinics at the hospital annually entertain as many as 70,000 patients with varying psychiatric ailments. Patients exhibiting symptoms of neurotic depression constitute 10 per cent, the official said.

**Substances**  
Ibrahim reviewed the history of addictive substances in Kuwait prevalent with alcohol up to 1975 followed by the use of hallucinatory pills up to 1977 after which heroin came on the scene along with hashish.

The use of such drugs along with barbiturates and tranquilisers such as valium and headache pills including Mandrax accompanied the economic recession in the country.

**Advice**  
He said that the vast majority of patients with varying addiction problems were those hooked up on alcohol rather than drugs. Patients admitted into the hospital for medical attention were brought in either by their parents or committed by the general prosecution. The problem of addiction among youth aged 14-25 was the second main factor of mortality after road accidents.

The rehabilitation process is conducted by specialised doctors and psychiatrists who help the

patients break their habit and provide them with needed psychological uplift and medical advice, Ibrahim said.

He attributed the main reasons of being addicted to drugs or alcohol to a number of factors which included loose family relations, bad company, poor awareness and a sense of being socially underprivileged.

**Depression**  
He said that children labouring under the influence of any of these factors often exhibited symptoms of depression and developed aggressive tendencies, mental disorders and incontinence.

He urged parents to allocate more time to their children, give adequate attention and guide them throughout their different developmental stages.

## Kuwait schools to be air-conditioned in September

THE chief engineer at the Department of Electrical Transmission and Distribution Network at the Ministry of Electricity and Water Jassem Abdul Hameed Jamal has said that the ministry plans to supply kindergartens and primary school classrooms with air-conditioning system early next September.

**Plan**  
The ministry has worked out a plan in co-operation with the

Ministry of Education to carry out the wish of HH the Amir to supply classrooms at government schools with air-conditioning facilities, he said.

Related electrical installations and re-wiring at kindergartens and primary schools would be accomplished early next August, which would be followed by the installation of air-conditioning units to be completed at the end of the same month, Jamal said.

## Saudis, EEC welcome Arab integration

SAUDI Arabia has welcomed the establishment of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) and Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) last week.

Saudi Press Agency, quoted here last night the Saudi Information Minister Ali Al Shaer as saying at the end of meeting held by the Saudi cabinet that his country hopes the two Arab bodies will reflect positively on the interests of the Arab nation.

Meanwhile, the European Economic Community yesterday welcomed last week's Arab moves towards regional integration, and told Tunisia it would look at ways of helping the North African country boost its exports to the EEC.

Spanish Foreign Minister Fernandez Ordonez, chairing the EEC's rotating presidency, told Tunisian delegates the EEC par-

ticularly welcomed the creation of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) and Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) last week.

**Integration**  
"We feel this is a step of major importance for regional integration, and a very positive one," he told a news conference.

He gave the delegates, led by Foreign Minister Abdel Hamid Escheikh, a pledge that the EEC would by next year review Tunisia's quota of olive oil, one of the country's most important exports. The quota currently stands at 46,000 tonnes.

Earlier, Abel Matutes, EEC commissioner in charge of relations with Mediterranean countries, said the EEC's own experience had shown the importance of regional economic co-operation in strengthening democracy and prosperity.

## Top priority to first aid services: health minister

THE Ministry of Public Health is awarding top priority to developing first aid services, according to Dr Abdul Razzak Al Youssef Al Abdul Razzak.

He said that three health centres were opened last year and another three are expected to be opened this year, all of which will enhance first aid services.

The health minister pointed out that the ministry is currently studying a health plan for the treatment of diabetes. He added that the ministry seeks to upgrade the qualifications of doctors at diabetic clinics through constant training.

The ministry recently started the implementation of the new

health registration system in some areas. This will be applied all areas in the near future so as to ensure better health care, he said.

The official announced the opening of Hamad Al Issa Organ and Kidney Transplant Centre. He also stressed that Thumayan Al Ghanim Centre for Stomach and Digestive Diseases will start receiving patients as of next April. This centre will also undertake specialised training of doctors in Kuwait and the Arab world.

Razzak said the ministry will soon implement procedures for eliminating the waiting period of patients calling at the outpatients wards.

## ACO has financed 50 vital municipal projects in various Arab cities

THE Secretary-General of Arab Cities Organisation (ACO), Abdul Aziz Al Adasani, said that ACO's fund for developing Arab cities financed 50 vital municipal projects.

Elucidating, he said the fund financed a sewage network project and three projects to establish industrial areas in different cities of Jordan as also the establishment of a cultural centre in "Him" and a "touristic" centre in North Shuaiba of Jordan. ACO also financed 10 projects in Lebanon, 10 in Syria, and 10 in Iraq. Additionally, the fund provided loans to build a slaughter house, two cultural complexes and a bus station in different cities of Morocco. It financed four power and water as well as road projects in Tripoli of Lebanon. It also contributed to financing several projects in Tunis, Somalia and South Yemen.

Adasani added that a number of applications for loans were received from Arab cities to finance different municipal projects. These applications will be reviewed during the funds board meeting to be held in Baghdad next month, he said.

The ACO will celebrate the day of the Arab City on March 15 that coincides with the 22nd anniversary of the establishment. A total of 350 Arab cities and towns are members in the ACO. Any Arab city is entitled to become a member, the official said.

The organisation aims at encouraging development and growth of these cities as well as developing municipal services. ACO organised tens of training courses and seminars for officials of Arab municipalities. It also organises several competitions to preserve the Arab traditional style of cities and towns, Adasani said.

**Cause**

The ACO is a non-political organisation that does not intervene in internal affairs of Arab states. But it defends Arab main causes and explains Arab views at international conferences and meetings. It organised the first conference of Arab and European cities in Morocco last October, at which 50 mayors of Arab and European cities participated.

## Telephone exchanges to accept payment in the afternoons

KUWAIT, Feb. 21, (KUNA): The Ministry of Communications announced today that as of March first it will collect telegram and telephone bills in the afternoon, three days a week.

The ministry's press release said that the new service, that will

be initially started in the Kuwait City and Farwaniya exchanges, will be on Saturdays, Mondays and Wednesdays from 4 to 6 pm.

It underlined that the system will be introduced in other exchanges in the future.

## Science club party

KUWAIT Science Club held a party in honour of young graduating scientists of the club. Sheikh Nasser Saud Al Sabah, head of Sabaiya Area's Council called on the young scientists to work hard towards becoming future scientists. He thanked officials and staff of the club for their guidance to the young

members. Muna Al Ameeri, the director of the girls branch in the club, said that about 400 children are registered in the club. A total of 159 students graduated during the last two years. The present batch of graduates consists of 133 children, the official said.

## Fraud rampant among garage owners: poll

OWNERS of vehicles are mostly victims of fraudulence practiced by garage owners through high repair charges and the use of non-genuine spare parts. A local daily highlighted this issue and interviewed some motorists and garage owners.

**Penalties**  
Obaid Al Einazi said that among every 100 garages only 10 owners work honestly. Most of the garages used imitation spare parts and charged customers the cost of the originals. He advised motorists to directly purchase the spare parts themselves and let the mechanics fix them in their presence.

He called on authorities to impose strict penalties against those apprehended for committing such fraudulent acts.

Khalaf Dahi said some garages used old spare parts and charged the cost of the new spare parts. He called on the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of Interior to ensure the technical capabilities of the garages.

Hamed Abdul Fattah, a garage owner, said that fraudulence could not be attributed to the garage owners' dishonesty. It is attributed to the inherent technical defect of the vehicle itself, which obliges the mechanic to try several times to rectify the fault.

**Denial**  
Dawood Hamdan said that most garage owners preferred the customer to bring the spare parts so as to avoid any misunderstanding in this respect. He acknowledged that many

problems did occur, but denied that fraudulence was committed intentionally by all. He ascribed the problem to ignorance by technicians and acknowledged that dishonesty does prevail in the profession.

Makram Ibrahim, a technician, acknowledged that some mechanics asked for more spare parts than actually required. Others kept the car lying in the garage for more than three days though the repairs could be done within half an hour. Accordingly, the customer is asked to pay more.

Elias Abd Gharibah, an electrician, suggested that a technical committee must be formed to undertake surprise checks of garages in order to protect car owners from garage fraud and technical ignorance.

## Educational objectives in Kuwait given paramount importance

THE director of Hawalli Educational Area, Abdullah Al Rujab, was quoted as saying that educational objectives are being given paramount importance by the authorities.

**Objectives**  
Speaking at a seminar held at Kuwait University's Faculty of Education, he said that the ministry realises the importance of educational objectives and had formed the Higher Educational Council.

Rujab added that the council also formed a committee which aims at ensuring that educational objectives and policies are in keeping with Kuwait's community requirements and Arab Islamic cultural teachings.

Omer Al Ghurair, chairman of Kuwait Teachers Society, said that the educational process should concentrate on grooming of citizens. People involved in the educational field should play an effective role in setting up

schools curricula through the selection of efficient and qualified specialists.

He called for giving the teachers' society the necessary opportunity to participate in the setting up of curricula. Qualified parents should also be permitted to participate, he said.

Dr Mohammed Al Muhaini, from the faculty of education called for paying more concern to the schools in general and its

administration in particular. He said that school was an institution which had been empowered to carry out a specific task, accordingly its administration should be given the necessary power to enact these tasks properly.

Dr Kafeyah Ramadhan claimed that the report prepared by the Educational Programme Re-evaluation Committee had been ignored by the ministry. She called for implementing the recommendations.

## GCC traffic meeting

ABU DHABI, Feb. 21, (KUNA): The Gulf Co-operation Council state's traffic department directors concluded their two-day meeting here today.

The meeting ended drawing up uniform traffic regulations to be presented to GCC interior ministers, sources of the meeting told KUNA.

The directors also agreed on a GCC unified driving licence, the sources added.



The Bangladesh embassy yesterday observed 'Shahid Dibosh' (Martyr's Day) by hoisting the flag to half-mast, prayers and patriotic songs. Ambassador K.M. Shethabuddin opened a weeklong exhibition of Bengali books by Bangladeshi writers. More than 300 books are on display. More titles are expected to be exhibited on Thursday. This is the first time that an exhibition of Bengali books is being held in Kuwait. It will be open from 9 am to 5 pm at the embassy premises in Jabriya. Picture shows the books displayed.



## WHAT'S ON

## ARTS

## Young Artists Exhibition

Until Feb 23: An exhibition of paintings and drawings by young Kuwaiti artists is being held at the Dabiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery, open from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 8 pm.

## Ghadir Gallery

Until March 19: Recent paintings by British water colour artist Patricia Mills will be shown at the Ghadir Gallery, Salmiya Complex, mezzanine, Gate 5, daily from 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 8.30 pm.

## Sultan Gallery

Feb 21: An exhibition of paintings by Bangladeshi artist Moulana Islam opens at the gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St. It will be open from 5 to 8 pm.

## MUSIC

## Piano Recital

Feb 22: Pianist Anthony Peebles will give a recital at the Kuwait International Hotel, Terrace Room. For reservations contact the hotel.

## LECTURES

## Vikings and Arabs

A series of lectures will be given by a visiting Swedish Arabist, Professor Bengt Knutson. The programme is as follows:

Feb 22 (6 pm): A recital of Swedish poetry translated into Arabic will be held at the Kuwait Writers Association, Adeliya.

## CINEMA

## British Council

Feb 22 (6 pm), Feb 23 (10.30 am): Moon Dreamers, a collection of animated stories for the young, featuring a bunch of lovable boys and girls from the land where dreams come from, will be shown. Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512/2533204/2533227.

## SOCIAL

## Indian Dance Recital

Feb 22: Dr Padma Subramanyam, a noted dancer and scholar of Indian classical dance, will give a lecture at 7.30 pm. It will be followed by a public recital. Only those holding an entry pass for any of the following dance shows will be allowed to attend.

Feb 23/24 (6.30 pm): Dr Padma Subramanyam will give a Bharata Natya (dance-ballet) recital.

## Bangladesh Martyr's Day

Feb 23 (6 pm): The Bangladesh Association will hold a discussion followed by a cultural programme to mark the Martyr's Day. All Bangladeshis are invited.

## Prize-giving ceremony

FEB 24 (6.30 pm): The annual prize distribution ceremony of the Bangladesh School will be held at the Ibn Taimiah Secondary School, Kuwait. All Bangladeshis are invited.

## Dance Recital

Feb 25 (6 pm): Dr Padma will give a solo-recital called "Jatiya Moksham," danced to Tchaikovsky's music. The dance show is part of the Nehru Centenary celebration. Both performances will be held at the IAC, Funaitees. For entry passes contact 3904817.

## Gayathri Arts

Feb 25: 10 am - 5 pm. The Gayathri Arts Organisation for Arts and Sports will hold a social event to celebrate the Nehru Centenary. Indoor games and competition will be held at the Indian embassy hall.

## SPORTS

## United Goans Centre

Feb 24: The UGC will hold their 11th annual league football tournament. All KIFF-affiliated teams are requested to contact the organisers for registration.

## PBAK bowling league games

Feb 24: The PBAK second non-pro bowling games will be held. The schedule is as follows: 8.30 am - Mandaluyong vs Quezon City; San Juan vs Makati; 11.30 am - Cavite City vs Paranaque; Zamboanga City vs Baguio City; 2.30 pm - Manila vs Calocan City.

March 3: Step-ladder games start at 10 am. The league has been sponsored by Dollarco and Holiday Inn.

## Scuba Diving

Feb 26: Scuba diving lessons start at the Al Boom Club. For details call 4830474/4835070.

## Tivim Centre

March 4/5: The Tivim Centre will hold its second annual one-day seven-a-side football festival at Al Sour Grounds. This will be followed by their second inter-village nine-a-side football tournament, beginning April 8. For details contact organisers.

## VIDEO CORNER

## Coincidence and menace come to the real world

By Gail Seery

IF you can get beyond the apparently pointless potential menace of the opening shots of *Stormy Monday*, you will actually find a worthwhile film underneath.

For example, I don't really see why we need to have shots of Melanie Griffith who plays Kate, asleep, juxtaposed with shots of pictures of a red Jaguar tearing up the motorway. Yes, I do know that the idea is to create certain expectations in the viewer, but in this instance the heavy handed artiness of the film almost lost my interest completely.

*Stormy Monday* stars, New-castle, Sean Bean, Sting and Melanie Griffith in approximately that order. Bean plays a young, unemployed Irishman called Brendon, who applies to key club owner Finney, (played

by Sting) for a job as a cleaner. Finney's first response is to turn him away, but Brendon's strong interest in jazz music prompts him to give him work. He lets him clean the club, and also gives him the task of looking after a visiting band, the Krakow Jazz ensemble, Finney's own contribution to the city's American week.

His hunch pays off, when a couple of sequences later, Brendon just happens to be eating in a local restaurant, and just happens to hear the two hoodlums who were tearing up the motorway in the red Jaguar, discussing their plans to kill or hurt Finney, because he will not sell his club to their unscrupulous employer.

This is just one of the coincidences which potentially weaken the story. I eat out quite a lot, but I never yet overheard anyone plotting to kill anyone,

or to hurt them. In some films this really wouldn't matter, but the director works so hard to stress that this is very much the real world, that the coincidence becomes harder to overlook.

Further coincidence takes place when Brendon knocks over Kate in a shopping precinct, then meets her when he takes the jazz ensemble to their hotel, then stumbles unwittingly into the restaurant where she works, where he hears the two men scheming. Again, the drunks stumbling across the screen don't really enhance the verisimilitude as intended, instead they distract the viewer from a not especially easy plot.

Despite these criticisms, a general sense of menace is effectively built up in a uniquely British setting. Effectively Mike Figgis'

story deals with an attempt by a New World businessman, Francis Cosmo, to transport violence back to the Old World. He finds that Finney knows a thing or two about violence and shady business dealings too.

"You haven't done your homework, Mr Cosmo," says Finney. "I've done mine. You've made too many assumptions about the people of this town."

And so the American baddie, is thwarted and leaves the town, having destroyed people and lives en route.

This is a compelling film, even if it is a little too artificial in its construction. It also represents a change of role for Sting, who slides back into his native Geordie accent with ease. The background music, which features greats like Otis Redding, B.B. King and Ray Charles is excellent.

too banal to be related otherwise. Two high school friends fall for the same girl. She (from the wrong side of the tracks) fancies the guy from the other side of the tracks, a well-heeled college bound budding country and western singer with a car. She uses his friend (wrong side of the tracks), no money, no college prospects, no singing talents, motorbike, as a backup only. He looks on as the parents feud and his friend refuses to make any commitments, hoping that his turn will come. This is another story of obsessive love and I suppose that of its kind it is quite acceptable.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Fintas/Farwanja; Video Naut, Salmiya Complex, Tel: 2432809; and at the Video Club, Salmiya, Tel: 5724372.

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● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (222332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran  
9.10 Good Morning  
9.15 Cartoon serial  
9.45 World News via Satellite  
10.00 Al Thaman: Arabic serial: Starring: Jamil Awadh, Juliet Awadh, Rubi Al Safi, Iman Kamel.  
10.50 News Summary/Good Morning  
11.00 Khalati Qamasha: local Arabic serial: starring Khalid Al Nafisi, Hayat Al Fahad, Suad Abdullah, Ghanem Al Saleh, Maryam Ghadban, Ali Mufteed.  
12.00 International Circus  
1.00 News Summary  
1.05 National Songs  
1.45 Special programmes on National Day  
4.15 World News via Satellite followed by news and views about Kuwait to mark the National Day celebration. Regular features like the historical serial Ibn Attiya, starring Majed Afrouni, Shafiq Hassan, Marcel Marina and car-

toons will also be shown.  
7.00 News Summary  
7.45 Good Evening  
8.30 Special programme  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.50 Al Baharat Al Marrah: Arabic serial, starring Hassan Abideen, Ahmad Maher, Muna Jabar, Fatima Tabae, Mohammad Rida and Anwar Ismael.  
10.50 Late Night Variety Show  
12.30 News Summary  
12.35 World News via Satellite/ Holy Quran/Closedown

## KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran  
6.10 Transformers: cartoon serial  
6.30 Prestige: "Star-struck." A mother opposes her daughter's efforts to become a star.  
7.30 Mutual of Omaha: "Exploring the Undersea Mountain." A look at volcanic mountains.  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 You and the Law  
8.55 Matlock: "The Photographer." A

beautiful model is charged with a murder. Starring: Andy Griffith.

9.40 The Bill Cosby Show: Theo informs the police about a gang murder and gets into lots of trouble. Comedy

10.10 People Do the Craziest Things  
10.30 Feature film: "Rear-view Mirror." Starring: Michael Beck, Tony Musante, Lee Remick. Nightmare movie with one aim — to frighten. Beck is scary as the deranged convict who commands a pretty woman (Lee Remick) to drive through the wild, swampy country. MTV. Directed by Lou Antonio. 104 minutes.

12.35 News Summary/ Followed by Magazine D'Actualite/ Holy Quran/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus  
Full Metal Jacket  
Starring: Vincent Donahue  
Al Salmiya  
People's Theatre presentation  
Al Hama  
Saheb Al Soorah (Arabic)  
Starring: Ahmed Mazhar, Huda Sultan  
Drive-In  
Gharum Al Afawi (Arabic)  
Starring: Laila Alwi, Sabireen, Salah Qabil

Al Firdous  
Joshlay (Hindi)  
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Sridevi, Sunny Deol, Meenakshi  
Fahad Open-Air  
Badlatley Rishte (Hindi)  
Al Fahad  
Al Sharidah (Arabic)  
Granada  
Al Khadimah (Arabic)  
Al Jahra  
Lucas

Sulabikhat  
Orkapurathu (Malayalam)  
Al Jleeb  
Deadly Friend  
Ahmadi Drive-In  
Youn Mir Youm Helu (Arabic)

## PRAYERS

Fajr	5.01 am
Zuhr	12.01
Asr	3.01 pm
Maghreb	5.43
Isha	7.00



● The General Manager of Kuwait International Hotel Hermann Simon (left) received British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs William Waldegrave to the hotel during his recent visit to Kuwait. Waldegrave visited the hotel for a press conference.

## French soprano excels in German ballads

By Jadranka Porter

FRENCH mezzo-soprano Francoise Carre gave a recital of songs at the Kuwait Meridien Hotel on Monday featuring works by 14 composers, ranging from Vivaldi to Cole Porter. The singer's repertoire emphasised her extraordinary versatility and catered to different tastes in music.

Carre was aptly accompanied on the piano by Roselyne Masset-Lecoq.

The first part of Carre's programme featured the best of German and Austrian composers with a notable exception of Vivaldi. Carre sang in Italian two arias from Vivaldi's operas *Il Tigrane* and *Il Giustino*. Another aria sang in Italian was *Piangere la Sorte Mia* from *Handel's opera Giulio Cesare*. But it was the *Lied*, German romantic songs and ballads, that dominated the first part of her programme. She chose the ones composed by Mozart, Schumann and Schubert, the

latter two being among the finest 19th century *Lied* composers. For them poetry and music were of equal importance.

Although the verse in some *Lied* has been said to be mediocre, only the German speakers in the audience could have noted that. But Romantic *Lied* often require a virtuosic technique and this is where Carre stood up to the task admirably.

The overall effect of a *Lied* as sung by Carre is that of a musical vignette, a light, short and self-contained piece of music, which once was the most popular salon music.

Carre's rich and powerful but well-controlled voice was complemented by her impressive stage presence. She sang and acted out Caplet's *Le Corbeau et le Renard* (The Raven and the Fox) based on a famous fable by La Fontaine.

Also in the second part of the programme were songs composed by Faure, Debussy,

Poulenc, Giraud and Britten. The audience responded with enthusiasm to more modern and well-known pieces such as "Over the Rainbow" from *The Wizard of Oz* by Arlen, "People" from *Funny Girl* and "So in Love" from *Kiss Me Kate* by Porter. She delighted the audience with her rendition of a French chanson "Sous le Ciel de Paris" (Under the Paris sky), a number she performed after the audience demanded an encore.

Carre is a graduate of Nancy Conservatory and is currently teaching at Paris Conservatory. She has recorded contemporary and mediaeval music and has won international recognition for her performance of lyrical songs.

Roselyne Masset-Lecoq graduated from Paris Conservatory where she came out first in harmony, counterpoint and composition. She was awarded the Casa Velasquez Prize by the French government.



French soprano Francoise Carre (right) and pianist Roselyne Masset-Lecoq in concert.

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# ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

AN invasion of armies can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come — Victor Hugo, French writer (1802-1885).

## Political tremors in Yugoslavia

By Peter Humphrey

BELGRADE, (Reuters): Yugoslavia's multi-racial republics of Macedonia and Bosnia are feeling political tremors from a protracted crisis fuelled by the ruling Communist Party's power struggle.

Yugoslavia and Western analysts say these areas have become a new focus of rivalry between factions led by Yugoslav party boss Stipe Suvor and Serbian party leader Slobodan Milosevic.

Yugoslavia, a federation of six republics and two provinces, with 23 million people, is in political chaos. It is riven by ethnic conflicts, rivalry between regional leaders, and battling an economic crisis with almost 300 per cent inflation.

No faction or region has yet taken control of the party. But the biggest republic, Serbia, has gained from protests that ousted some political opponents in its autonomous provinces Vojvodina and Kosovo, and in the small southern republic Montenegro.

### Block

Fearing Serbian domination, the northwestern republics Croatia and Slovenia, and Bosnia in central Yugoslavia, rallied to Suvor in recent months in an effort to block Milosevic's march to power.

The analysts say both factions are exploiting divisions in Bosnia and Macedonia, to tip the federal power balance.

If Milosevic ever takes either Macedonia or Bosnia, he will control over half of Yugoslavia," one Yugoslav analyst said.

It was in Bosnia that local nationalists sparked World War I by killing Austro-Hungarian Crown Prince Franz-Ferdinand. Now, nationalist tension is again rising among its 4.5 million people, including orthodox Serbs, Catholic Croats and Muslims, the analysts say.

Austerity, scandals, police brutality and religious protests have politicised Bosnian communities and revived old animosities which climaxed in ethnic violence during World War II.

"The political map of Bosnia is unfortunately increasingly identical with its ethnic concentrations," said the official news-

paper Borba, a nationally-circulating publication.

Milan Pancevski, a Macedonian in the Yugoslav politburo, told his republic's official daily Nova Makedonija on Wednesday that the region was under pressure to join one of the factions.

He warned that tampering with the federal structure could lead to "the crumbling of Yugoslavia."

Between the two world wars, Macedonians were ruled as Serbs by a Serbian monarchy. They only gained republic and nationality status after the Yugoslav communists came to power in 1945 and created a federation within which Serbia was kept weak.

With 1.9 million people, two-thirds ethnic Macedonian and one-third Albanian, it is Yugoslavia's poorest republic and ripe for unrest. Strikes have erupted there in recent months, as well as small-scale ethnic clashes.

Serbia and Macedonia this month revived polemics over the Macedonian orthodox church, which declared independence from the Serbian church in 1967, strengthening the Macedonian identity.

Borba said some Bosnian communities were swinging behind Milosevic, while others were rushing to support Suvor. Similar reports have surfaced in Macedonia.

Tanjug news agency said on Wednesday that Muslim clergymen in Bosnia had staged protest meetings against Yugoslavia Muslim leaders, who are generally state-approved appointees.

"Bosnia-Herzegovina is a possible new battlefield on which the quarrels of the leaderships of Yugoslavia's states could provoke real conflicts between the peoples," Borba said.

Pancevski said: "Demands and pressure to be for or against a certain republic or personality are utterly unacceptable," he said. "Macedonia will not yield to pressure."

Milosevic last year urged millions of Serbs to take to the streets in support of his constitutional reform drive to return Kosovo, an ethnic Albanian stronghold along the Albanian border, and Vojvodina, bordering Hungary, to Serbian control.

## Summit in the near future

By Daniel Snider

TOKYO: Recent events have raised hopes for easing of tensions between bitterly divided North and South Korea.

The North Koreans have accepted a South Korean proposal for high level political talks, prompting South Korean President Roh Tae Woo to predict a summit meeting with North Korean leader Kim Il Sung "in the near future."

But President Roh, many Seoul-based observers say, is overly optimistic about prospects for such a breakthrough in the armed truce between the two nations which has prevailed since the end of the Korean war.

"North Korean policies and objectives remain fundamentally unchanged," comments a knowledgeable Western diplomat. Despite what the diplomat describes as a "blizzard of proposals coming out of the North," the secretive communist regime has stuck to its insistence that any talk of normal interchange on the divided peninsula must be based on ending what it calls "American domination" of the South.

## Koreas move to ease tension

"The North Koreans," argues veteran political journalist Park Kuon Song, "are pursuing a consistent position of eliminating US troops in South Korea."

Still, the South Koreans see some evidence that their foes are starting to yield. The key is the success of President Roh's "northward diplomacy," the opening of economic and diplomatic ties with North Korea's communist allies in China, the Soviet Union, and Eastern Europe.

Pressure As North Korea becomes increasingly isolated and under domestic pressure because of serious economic decay, officials say it will be encouraged to engage in negotiations with the South. Informed South Korean sources cite reports of the outcome of a late December visit by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to North Korea. According to those sources, the North Koreans strongly protested the growing Soviet trade links with the South and were rebuffed in requests for greater economic aid.

"The Soviets told them, 'we can't help you — you must open your society as we did,'" one South Korean source says. Recently, North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyung Mok sent a letter to his South Korean counterpart accepting a Dec 28 proposal to hold political and military talks in successive rounds in both capitals. These would be the highest-level contacts since the Korean war. The North Koreans proposed a meeting on Feb 8 at Panmunjon, the truce village on the border, to work out the terms for the talks.

### Distract

South Korean President Roh Tae Woo, speaking to reporters, held out the prospect that these talks would lead to a summit meeting that would make "epoch-making progress in resolving the Korean question."

There is some suspicion in opposition party circles that the government is exaggerating the

likelihood of improvement of inter-Korean relations to distract the public from political difficulties at home. "I serve a stern notice against any moves to exploit diplomatic issues in domestic politics," opposition leader Kim Young Sam said.

There are other reasons to doubt whether the latest North Korean initiative differs from previous moves. The letter from Prime Minister Yon reiterates past positions targeting the US role. He called for separate talks with the US, "which is the party responsible for the aggravation of tension." And he called on Seoul to "take measures to end the Team Spirit joint military exercise" with the US in order to set a "favourable mood" for the talks.

Though Yoh did not make these demands a precondition for the preliminary talks, he seemed to set the stage for North Korea to use them to block the prime-ministerial level meeting. Parliamentary delegations have been holding such pre-talks,

aimed at setting the conditions for a large-scale parliamentary conference, since last summer.

Last December, when it seemed talks were close to agreement, the North abruptly raised the Team Spirit exercises, which annually take place beginning in February, demanding they be called off as a precondition.

### Agitate

Some Korean analysts believe Pyongyang is simply using the talks as a convenient forum to encourage the growing anti-American sentiment in the South. The North Koreans "are using preliminary talks as a forum against the US and to agitate the South Korean public against the US presence," Park says.

At best, Pyongyang might hope to use the political opposition in the South to force the government into talks focused on the military issue. The South Korean position has been to seek broad improvement in economic, cultural, and human-

itarian relations, now virtually non-existent, before tackling the tougher military and political problems.

Recently the Korean media reported the exercise will be scaled down, but South Korean defence authorities denied this. Planning for the exercise "is too far along," says an informed source in Seoul, although a symbolic reduction is possible. More likely, the source says, is that the formal announcement of the decision to go ahead with the exercise will be delayed until after the February talks.

A summit meeting is also unlikely, analysts say, because it would give legitimacy to the South Korean government. The North Koreans have consistently refused to do so, fearing it would undermine their claim that the southern regime is a "puppet" of the Americans. They have refused even to refer to Roh Tae Woo or his predecessors by their title as "president." The North has instead sought talks with groups, such as student organisations, that they claim represent the people of the South. The Christian Science Monitor.

## Bush's Asia visit

## More style than substance

By Michael Gelb

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): President Bush's first extended foreign trip, a five-day Asian tour, is being portrayed by White House aides as a tone-setting mission unlikely to break new diplomatic ground.

"The purpose is to maintain good ties, not to embark on some new initiatives," one senior Bush aide said.

Today Bush will leave for his first official foreign visit as president — except for a day-trip to Ottawa earlier this month — to attend the funeral of Emperor Hirohito.

During his two-day stay in Tokyo he will briefly meet Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and other foreign leaders attending the funeral on Friday.

Bush and Takeshita discussed trade and economic disputes between their two countries in Washington two weeks ago and US officials say no new business will be conducted.

### Grumbling

Bush, a US envoy to China in the 1970s, then heads for a "senior official's" Beijing for two nights before stopping for a few hours in Seoul, South Korea, for talks with government and opposition.

The vague agenda seems likely to add to grumbling around Washington that the new president has been slow in taking hold of the country's foreign policy. That feeling was compounded on Thursday when he admitted that he was surprised by the results of last week's Cen-

tral American summit.

Word that Bush has delayed a decision on whether to help Japan build the new FSX fighter plane until after the trip could heighten the impression of snail-pace caution.

But Steve Studdert, a senior official responsible for choreographing Bush's public events, says the Asia trip should be judged by different standards.

"This is different from a normal, planned, strategised trip because its primary purpose is to attend the funeral of the head of state of a close ally," he said.

### Pleased

Bush leaves behind some nagging domestic problems, including the troubled nomination of John Tower as defence secretary. But White House officials note that several opinion polls say most Americans are pleased with Bush's early performance.

The aides hope the Asia trip will produce enough television footage of Bush to give Americans the impression he has taken charge.

Bush's decision to head the US funeral delegation is primarily a signal of respect and friendship towards a country that was a bitter enemy just 40 years ago.

A Navy bomber pilot in World War II, he was shot down over the Pacific in combat against Japan. His decision to honour the emperor who represented the enemy in that conflict has pleased the Japanese.

But the visit is not designed to make any progress in addressing US-Japanese differences over trade policy or Washington's interest in stepped-up defence

spending by Tokyo. "With all the bilateral meetings and the lengthy formal ceremonies, there is not a lot of time for other things," one White House official said.

Bush is expected to talk privately in Tokyo to French President Francois Mitterrand, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, King Hussein of Jordan and Philippine President Corason Aquino.

### Renew

The White House is trying to lower expectations for the stop in China, which is being presented as an opportunity for Bush to renew acquaintances. He headed the US diplomatic office in Beijing in 1974 and 1975.

"George Bush has strong sentimental ties there," said a White House aide. "It is natural for the president — with his ties to the world — to touch base personally with the leaders of China."

Bush visited China twice as a vice-president and seems to have a special affection for the country, which has forged good relations with Washington under the leadership of Deng Xiaoping.

By visiting China at this time, he gets a head start on Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who is expected to meet Deng in May for the first Sino-Soviet summit in 30 years.

Bush insists he is not trying to play off the communist giants and a senior administration official said Washington would welcome improved ties between Beijing and Moscow.

The visit to South Korea, a close US ally, is intended mostly to avoid hurt feelings in Seoul.



An old woman, a victim of the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster, holds a sign which reads 'Down with Union Carbide' during a rally on Saturday, where 3,000 people protested the \$470 million Union Carbide agreed to pay the victims. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Union Carbide seen as victor in Bhopal disaster settlement

By Bill Tarrant

BHOPAL, India, (Reuters): "Killer Carbide must be punished," say slogans on the walls surrounding the shut-down Union Carbide plant in this central Indian city where thousands died in a gas leak more than four years ago.

But in the end the company was not blamed for the deadly cloud of gas that spewed from its pesticides factory and rolled through a sleeping city on Dec 3, 1984, in what has been called the world's worst industrial disaster.

Many people in Bhopal, which is still treating tens of thousands of the sick, said the \$470 million Union Carbide agreed to pay to the victims was not nearly enough.

Several thousand demonstrators, most of them women, marched through Bhopal on Saturday protesting against last week's surprise supreme court judgment, demanding more money and the pressing of criminal charges against the US-based corporation.

### Blame

The court did not blame Union Carbide for the disaster and its order dismissed all past, present and future civil or criminal suits against the company.

"By agreeing to drop the criminal charges, the government has allowed the guilty off and the killer multinational to go scot-free," said Vinod Raina of the Bhopal Group for Information and Action.

Opposition parties accused the government of a sell-out in a general election year and of caving in before the power of a multinational company.

Even pro-government newspapers and government officials expressed outrage at the judgment.

The Times of India said the supreme court "made a hasty decision to duck all issues" and avoided the critical question of liability which, it said, could have set a precedent for other Third World victims in similar situations.

"The pittance that will reach the victims is bound to be seen by them as an insult... the supreme

court treated them as people whose lives are only worth a fraction of those of, say, Americans," it said in the editorial.

"This was a victory for multinationals operating in the Third World," said a senior official of the Madhya Pradesh government in the state capital, Bhopal.

"Principles were sacrificed for expediency and justice was a victim," said the official, who asked not to be identified.

### Victory

"Union Carbide profits," said another official. "Union Carbide has the last laugh after all. No, call it a gulf."

Officially, the Madhya Pradesh government supported the ruling, saying, it brought to an end uncertainties over the long legal dispute.

Union Carbide lawyers said this week they were happy with the judgment precisely because it did not assign blame. "This was a compromise, a settlement. Liability was not an issue in the end," said lawyer William Krohley.

Union Carbide has always denied liability on the grounds that it did not directly own the plant, which was operated by its Indian subsidiary and regulated by the Indian government.

### Accuse

The company also accused an unidentified employee at the plant of deliberately causing the disaster, a circumstance which if proved would have absolved it of liability.

The settlement lifted a shadow that had hung over the parent company for the past four years. Union Carbide shares rose more than \$2 on the New York Stock Exchange and it was the most actively traded share issue on the day the news was announced.

A settlement from the Danbury, Connecticut, headquarters said it would take a charge against 1988 earnings equal to 30 cents a share to help pay for the settlement.

More than 2,000 people, many of them living in a teeming shantytown around the plant, awoke vomiting and died within minutes as tons of methyl

isocyanate gas swept silently towards the sleeping city. Since then, victims who could not escape the yellow gas cloud have died at the rate of nearly one a day.

### Compensation

The Madhya Pradesh government said at least 320,000 of the nearly 600,000 people who survived to put in claims have been medically examined and could qualify for compensation.

Three new hospitals, a half-dozen out-patient clinics and a diagnostic centre have been built to cope with an estimated 10,000 victims who require treatment daily.

A government spokesman said another 700 people who died after long illnesses could be added to the official death toll of 3,403.

The Bhopal plant is under custody of India's Central Bureau of Investigation, resting on 30 hectares (75 acres) of land.

There are few reminders of the disaster. A statue of a mother grasping a baby to her breast and covering her mouth is only memorial in the city. An inscription on it reads: "No more Hiroshimas, no more Bhopals."

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1495 — French forces under King Charles VIII enter Naples in Italy.
- 1724 — Treaty of Stockholm between Sweden and Russia for mutual assistance.
- 1759 — French abandon siege of Madras, India, on arrival of British fleet.
- 1828 — Peace of Turkmanchay by which Persia cedes part of Armenia, including Erivan, to Russia.
- 1848 — Revolt erupts in Paris due to failure of Louis Philippe's reign.
- 1942 — It is announced that tribesmen in the Philippines have wiped out a Japanese regiment during World War II.
- 1945 — US Third Army crosses Saar River south of Saarburg, Germany, in World War II.
- 1964 — Ghana becomes one-party socialist state.
- 1966 — Uganda's Prime Minister Milton Obote orders five cabinet members arrested and assumes full power.
- 1975 — Military government of Ethiopia announces that 2,300 guerrillas have been killed in fighting in Eritrea.
- 1986 — Philippines defence minister and the general who was to become armed forces chief break with government of President Ferdinand E. Marcos.
- 1988 — Palestinian moderates seek permission from PLO chief Yasser Arafat to meet with US Secretary of State George Shultz when he arrives to launch another US peace initiative.

clearly proceeding on the basis of the West's agenda," Fitzwater said in a statement.

"The President expressed his conviction that NATO unity is strong and his confidence that the allies will move together in addressing the major questions of international stability," Fitzwater said.

Baker operated most effectively behind the scenes as White House chief of staff and Treasury secretary under former President Ronald Reagan and then as Bush's 1988 election campaign chairman.

Critics of the Bush campaign's tactics, especially its rough attack on liberals and prisoner-release policies, rarely took aim at Baker.

Baker took the same subdued style with him to Canada and to Western Europe. Just for a moment, on the flight home on Friday, he showed a touch of emotion concerning his decision to sell his stock in a New York bank.

He owned the shares because of a merger involving a Texas bank founded by his grandfather.

"My grandfather would be turning over in his grave," he said.

And yet, characteristically, when ethical questions were raised at the White House — the bank holds \$4.5 billion in Third World debt that could be affected by State Department decisions — Baker put out the fire quickly.

He ordered trustees to sell all of his publicly traded stock as well as that held by his wife, Susan, and their daughter, Mary Bonner Baker, to avoid any appearance of an ethical conflict. On policy issues and on terrorism, Baker was also reserved.

Libya in building a chemical weapons plant.

Baker did not try to talk Chancellor Helmut Kohl out of his proposal, backed also by Denmark, to postpone the upgrading of NATO's battlefield Lance missiles.

Instead, they agreed to try to work out a compromise at the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation summit meeting being planned for late May in Brussels.

Baker let it be known he was aware of the political problems confronting Kohl, a conservative who faces elections in 1990 in a country with growing disarmament tendencies.

Nor was there any public criticism from Baker of the help West German firms gave Libya as it tried to develop chemical weapons.

The Germans, who first denied the charges as exaggerations by the American media, have tightened export controls and promised to prosecute violators. Baker let it rest at that.

In The Hague, Baker was confronted with an appeal from Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek that he take the advice of French, Greek and Spanish foreign ministers who toured the Middle East as a European Economic Community "troika" and plunge into Arab-Israeli diplomacy.

Baker politely declined, saying the time was not right and that premature US intervention could destroy whatever moves toward peace talks may be developing.

And yet, Baker tactfully agreed to have American diplomats take soundings among the Israelis, Arabs and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. He promised to report back to the West European foreign ministers when they attend the opening of arms control negotiations between NATO and the Warsaw Pact in Vienna next month.



Weekly Quiz

# Are you a diplomat ... or a doormat?

By Mary Kemp

IT happens every day. A situation arises at work or home that calls for a little diplomacy. Maybe you want to finish with a lover or a friend asks for your honest opinion about their new haircut.

Are you the sort of person who lies just to please, or do you always speak your mind without a thought about anyone else's feelings? Are you a diplomat or an egocentric? Our quiz will reveal all...

1. You have been out all evening with friends and decide to get something to eat. Do you:
  - a. Go to the restaurant everyone else wants to go to?
  - b. Suggest you all put the name of your favourite restaurants in a hat and draw one out?
  - c. Have a discussion, then choose?
  - d. Demand you go to your own favourite restaurant without listening to anyone else?
2. Your best friend has bought a new dress and asks what you think of it. What do you say?
  - a. That she looks like a beached whale in it.
  - b. That she looks OK, but you wouldn't be seen dead in it.
  - c. That it is an interesting choice.
  - d. That she looks perfect.
3. You have eaten dinner at a friend's house when the question of washing-up arises. What do you do?
  - a. Begrudgingly take a tea towel and help dry.
  - b. Suggest you wash up all the dishes and your friend dries them.
  - c. Leap up and offer to do it all before your host has a chance to leave the table.

How to score

	a	b	c	d
1	0	1	2	3
2	3	2	1	0
3	2	1	0	3
4	0	3	1	2
5	3	2	0	1
6	0	1	3	2
7	2	3	0	1
8	2	3	0	1
9	2	1	0	3
10	0	3	2	1
11	0	2	1	3
12	3	1	2	0
13	2	0	1	3
14	0	3	1	2
15	1	0	2	3

Can you handle tricky everyday situations with diplomacy — or do you always insist that your views are the right ones? Or that everyone else's wishes should come before your own? Our intriguing quiz shows exactly where you stand...

4. Your boss asks you to do a charity parachute jump for the company. What is your reaction?
  - a. Although terrified of heights you readily agree.
  - b. Resign.
  - c. Suggest you do something less taxing, like a sponsored walk.
  - d. Tell him you will help collect sponsor money instead.
5. You discover one of your friends has body odour. What do you do?
  - a. Put some air-fresheners on the back of their chair.
  - b. Buy them some deodorant for their birthday.
  - c. Tolerate it and say nothing.
  - d. Break it to them gently while out for a drink.
6. A group of you are going to a party and someone has to volunteer to drive. What do you do?
  - a. Insist that you will drive.
  - b. Toss a coin for it.
  - c. Be adamant that if you have to drive or you won't go.
  - d. Drive, but not talk to anyone all evening.
7. You have been looking forward to watching your favourite TV programme all week. You have just settled down to watch it when your friend comes in and switches channels. Do you?
  - a. Storm out of the room.
  - b. Switch back to your programme.
  - c. Say nothing.
  - d. Explain what has happened.
8. You decide that the romance

- has gone out of your relationship and you want to finish it. How do you let your partner know?
  - a. Avoid them and never talk to them when they telephone.
  - b. Ring them up and tell them you never want to see them as long as you live.
  - c. You are too frightened to hurt them and would rather be unhappy yourself.
  - d. Break the news to them gently over a few days.
9. Your boss gives you so much work you have to miss every lunch break. Do you?
  - a. Give the work to someone else.
  - b. Tell your boss you cannot cope.
  - c. Do it without moaning so your boss gives you even more work.
  - d. Refuse point blank to work during your lunch break.
10. Your new radio suddenly starts to crackle every time you turn the volume up. What do you do?
  - a. Live with the crackle and hope it goes away.
  - b. Take the radio back to the shop and demand a new one.
  - c. Take it back to the shop and ask them to mend it.
  - d. Ask a friend to take a look at it.
11. Your colleague breaks an important piece of equipment at work. When your furious boss summons you to his office what do you tell him?
  - a. You accept the blame for your

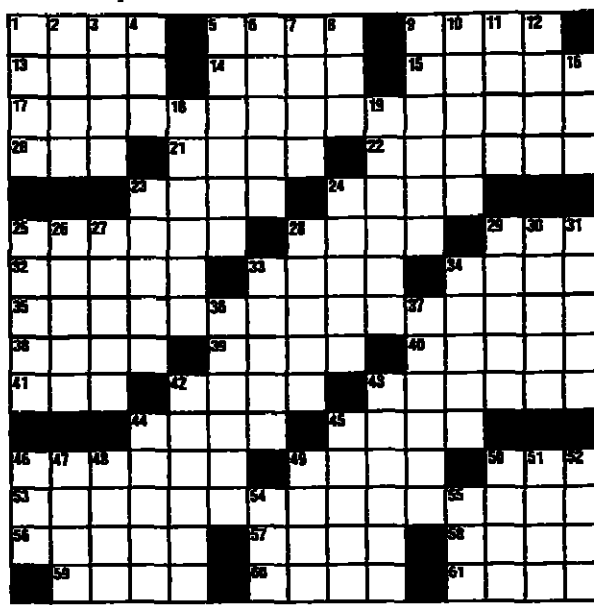
- colleague's mistake.
  - b. Lie to cover up for your colleague.
  - c. Buy your boss a drink so he forgets about incident.
  - d. Tell your boss who did it.
12. Your great aunt gives you an egg whisk for a birthday present. Do you:
  - a. Tell her it is the worst present you have ever had?
  - b. Quietly give it away to a friend?
  - c. Say it's just what you have always wanted, even though hate it?
  - d. Pretend you like it and give your great aunt egg nog everytime she visits?
13. It has been several months since you lent a friend KD100 and you want it back. Are you:
  - a. Angry and demand it back plus interest?
  - b. Too polite to ask for it back so you never see it again?
  - c. Disappointed, but gently remind them?
  - d. You would not have lent the money in the first place.
14. It is late at night and you get a phone call from a friend asking them to pick you up from the airport. What do you do?
  - a. Say yes, even though you have had eight consecutive late nights and have to go for an early meeting in the morning.
  - b. Tell them to get a taxi.
  - c. Ask a friend to pick them up.
  - d. Suggest they get the late night bus.
15. You have planned an early night, but the neighbours are having a noisy party downstairs. Do you:
  - a. Grab your party frock and join them?
  - b. Put your head under the pillow and stay awake all night?
  - c. Ask them to turn the music down?
  - d. Call the police?

0 — 15: You always speak your mind and get whatever you want. But you are liable to lose a few friends along the way, and leave a few noses out of joint. Next time a friend asks for your advice, think before you speak. Failing that, enrol in an evening class in diplomacy.

15 — 30: You are a born diplomat. You probably spend most of your time patching up quarrels, and are very popular with your friends. But try to strike a happy medium. If you are too nice people will tread all over you.

30 — 45: You are too polite for your own good. It is no wonder you spend your life in the kitchen or babysitting while your friends go out and enjoy themselves. Beware! People will always take advantage of you if you let them. Stick up for yourself and let them know what you really want.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- 1 Animal shelter
- 5 House
- 9 Express
- 13 Russian range
- 14 South African assembly
- 15 "The Merry Widow" composer
- 17 Michael J. Fox movie
- 20 Hubbub
- 21 Biblical twin
- 22 Hearty soup
- 23 Seed covering
- 24 Talking bird
- 25 "Bite the..."
- 28 Cafe au —
- 29 Tax expert, for short
- 32 George or T. S.
- 33 Scorch
- 34 Take on cargo
- 35 Place for a prompter
- 38 Greek earth goddess
- 39 Terms of a sale
- 40 Large number
- 41 Miscalculate
- 42 Distinctive atmosphere
- 43 Share top billing
- 44 Israel's Eban
- 45 Metallic fabric
- 46 Ethically neutral
- 49 Balkan native
- 50 Partner of cry
- 53 Givers of

### DOWN

- 1 Island in the Greater Antilles
- 2 Mouthward
- 3 Mexican nosh
- 4 Lodge member
- 5 Skool, to a Berliner
- 6 Assessed valuation
- 7 Hawaiian island
- 8 White House monogram
- 9 Voluble
- 10 Sicilian sight
- 11 Sleep, with "eye"
- 12 Medieval Italian coin
- 16 Electric unit
- 18 Cylindrical
- 19 Part of UFO
- 23 Island greeting
- 24 A, B, C and D, e.g.
- 25 Tan shade
- 26 Of a forearm

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

### PUTTING UP A FALSE FRONT

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH  
♠ Q 7 5 4  
♥ A Q  
♦ Q  
♣ A K J 6 3

WEST

♠ Void

♥ 8 7 5 3 2

♦ K 10 8 6 4

♣ 10 9 7

EAST

♠ K J 2

♥ 9 6 4

♦ 7 5 3 2

♣ Q 8 4

The bidding:

North

1 ♠

4 ♠

Pass

South

1 ♠

6 ♠

Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠  
Terence wrote in praise of the man who can make wrong seem right. He would have been proud of one of our Easts on this hand from a high-level team game.

There is great dispute among experts about whether and when to open one spade or one club with five cards in each suit. Here, both Norths chose to open one club, and both North-South pairs arrived in six spades via the most direct route. Both Wests led the ten of clubs. At each table declarer rose with dummy's ace. One East followed suit with the four. Since declarer was solid everywhere except for trumps, he elected to make a safety

play to insure his contract. He led a low spade from dummy and, when East produced the two, he inserted the three. A bemused declarer scooped in the first trump trick with the four, and as a result he had only one trump loser.

At the other table, East dropped the queen of clubs under the ace! Declarer realized that it was possibly an attempt to pull the wool over his eyes, but he decided that he didn't want to risk a safety play and find East ruffing the second club to defeat his slam. Since he was safe with any 2-1 trump distribution or a 3-0 split where West held the long trumps, he elected to play a spade to the ace. Now East had to score two trump tricks for down one.

The hand has an interesting point. While a club ruff might well beat the slam if trumps were 2-1, sometimes even the threat of a ruff can sway declarer from his appointed line onto a losing tack.



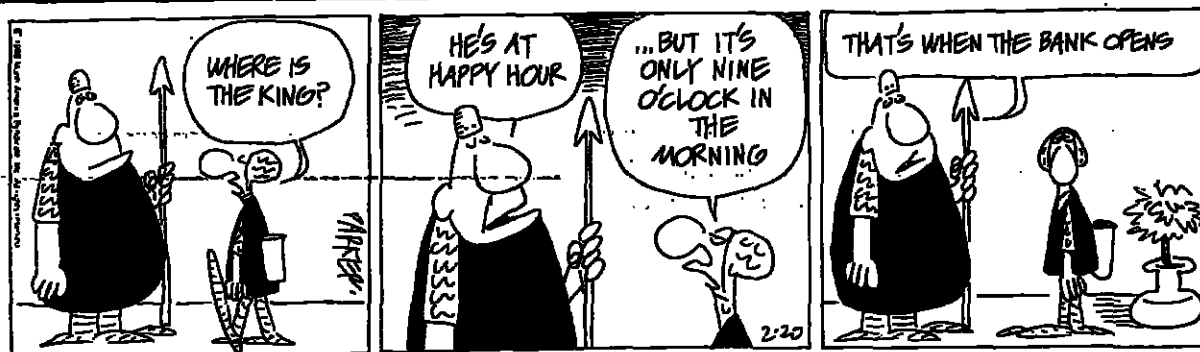
"I don't like the way our new grille looks on having a ball-boy!"



"Whatever I said back there in church, forget it!"

## THE WIZARD OF ID

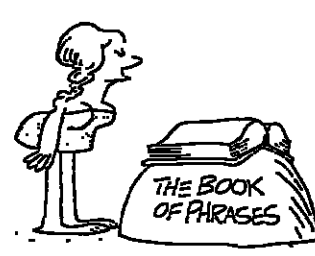
By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart

### ALPHABET SOUP



FROM THE PEOPLE WHO LIKE TO PUT WORDS IN YOUR MOUTH

## YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will be able to get a move on but do remember that if you rush you are likely to overlook things. And have a little more patience. Do not say what you do not mean. Be cautious.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be subject to a temptation which you must do your best to resist. You should not be apprehensive about something that is unlikely to happen. Look to the future instead of dwelling on the past. Be hopeful.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will feel a little bit fragile and should seek to relax. You should watch your tongue in case you say something you might regret. Avoid making empty promises. Be magnanimous.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will find various doors open to you, but do not try to enter them all at once. 12 and 15 are your lucky numbers. Do not expect to get more than you give. You have no time to spare for hobbies just now. Be specific.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

One of your problems will have an unusual solution. You should not promise anything that you cannot deliver. You must make sure you do not say anything offensive. Be less obsessive.



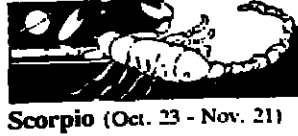
Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

The Moon's better influence will help you to make the right decision. You will be able to effect a reconciliation. Watch out for someone who is going to try to deceive you. Be tactful.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Mercury's better influence will help you to take a more balanced view of things. You should not let work smother your personal life. Give others the benefit of any doubt. Be reasonable.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Today you will feel able to face the facts. You should not insist on having your own way in all things. Try to take a little more exercise and to eat fewer sweets. Be selective.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Something you have offered or proposed will not be acceptable in its present form. You should not attempt to do by force something that you have not been able to do by persuasion. Avoid sweeping unpleasant facts under the carpet. Be reliable.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)

The prospects are good but you must not delay. You should avoid jumping to conclusions nor should you act on impulse. Keep calm when dealing with a nervous person. Be considerate.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

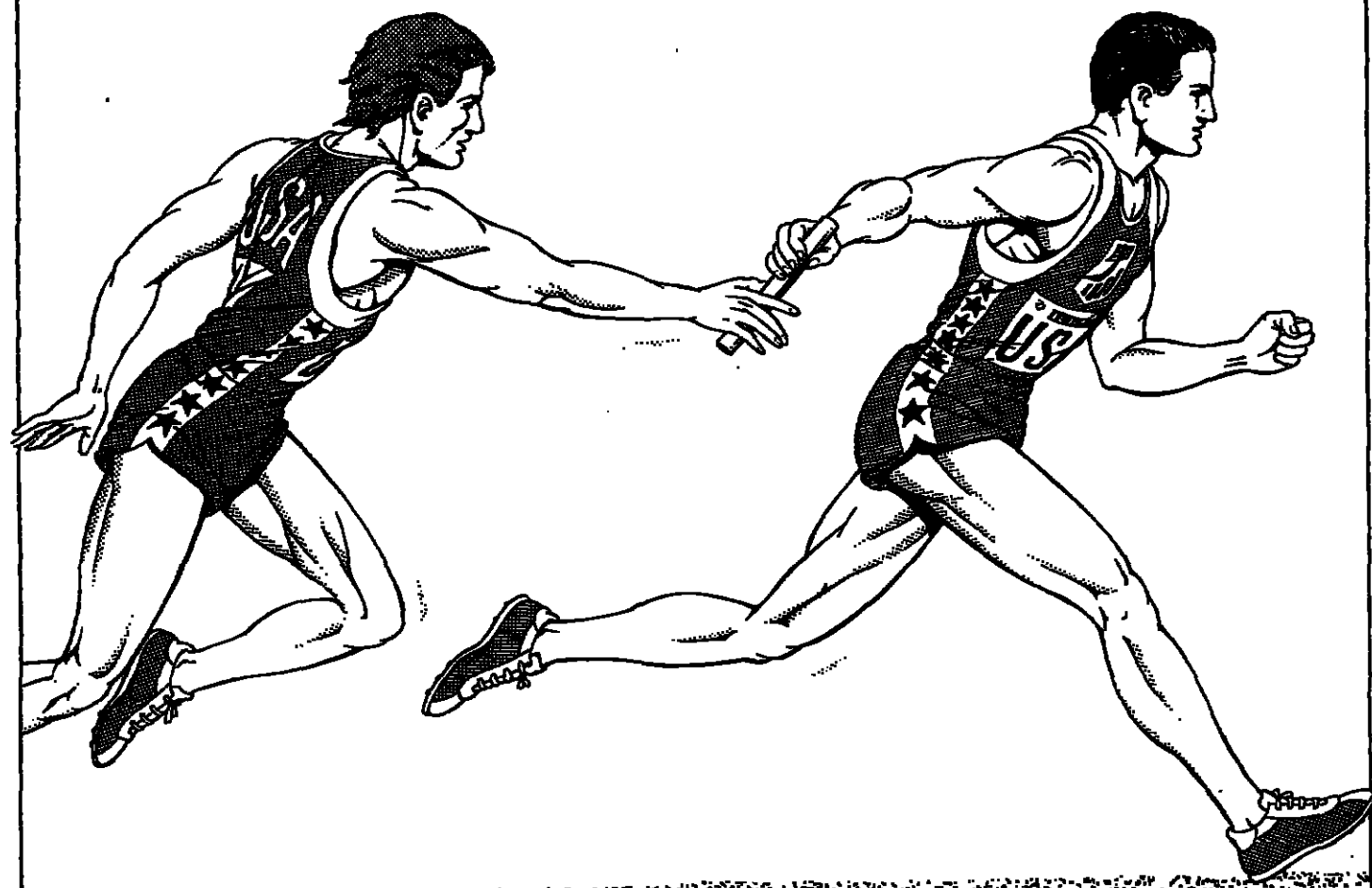
You will achieve better results than you had expected. Mars' less good influence should make you beware of missing some vital detail. If you are not very careful you will be caught off guard. Be fair.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will be able to do the right thing in the circumstances. You must expect costs to be higher than you had first allowed for. Do not eat too much of something you like but which is fattening. Be prompt.

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# Iceman Borg loses his cool

After quitting tennis at the age of 26 in 1983, it seems Bjorn Borg is having problems coping with his freedom.

By Boris Jonsson

WE WILL probably never know why Bjorn Borg, five times Wimbledon champion, was admitted to a Milan hospital last week to have barbiturates pumped out of his stomach.

In his immediate thoughts must surely have been the jinx on his attempt to marry the 38-year-old Italian pop starlet Loredana Berté.

Not only has Loredana failed to get her divorce registered in Rome, so making her a potential bigamist, but, as the sort of girl who is not afraid to scandalise smart dinner parties by wearing a very tiny black dress, she has brought upon Bjorn's blond head the execration of the prudish Swedish press — who will not forgive their former hero for breaking up with the clean-limbed Swedish model Jannike Björling, and worse still, for having lived as a tax exile in Monte Carlo.

But over the past five years the former champion has evidently been facing — and failing to surmount — a more general challenge greater than any he has ever faced with such tenacity on court.

## Excitement

After the first excitement of his entry on to the international tennis scene in 1974, when Borgomania gripped scores of teenagers at Grand Slam tournaments, his reputation became that of a Swedish iceberg, a man who time and again came back from match-point down to snatch victory because of an inscrutable determination.

It is as if the concentration on winning, on keeping fit and playing his evolved brand of power tennis provided a mechanism, during his long spell at the top, for internalising the pressure.

Borg may have been under enormous pressure to compete for 15 years, but at least he had a

goal in front of his close-set eyes: getting the ball back over the net. Borg's career began with a ping-pong match near his home at Sodertälje, just outside Stockholm, when he was eight. His father won the first prize, a tennis racket, and gave it to Borg.

Borg developed his enormous powers of concentration hitting shot after shot against the wall of the family garage, imagining that he was playing in an international tournament for Sweden against the United States and counting the shots he retrieved.

His precocious talent was identified so early on that almost all his young life appears to have been devoted to tennis. Eventually he dropped out of school at the age of 14, nine months before he was due to complete the compulsory period of Swedish education.

"I left because I knew my marks would get worse and worse," he has said. But years later, when his thoughts were no longer focused on the bounce of a ball, the truncation of his education may have left something of a vacuum.

## Tribute

Acquaintances pay tribute to his good nature, but it seems that he has hardly had an intellectual inner life. His favourite reading in the changing room is said to have ranged from comics to football magazines.

Borg's crisis is an enlarged version of a problem that affects many sportsmen. According to Peter Terry, sports psychologist for the UK Lawn Tennis Association, professional sportsmen face a huge gulf in their lives when the competition stops. "They lose their means of personal fulfilment. The difficulties of readjusting when they come off the pinnacle are fairly well documented — and not just in sport. Take Judy Garland for example."

Unlike many other former



Bjorn Borg (with his first wife Marianna, whom he divorced in 1984) (top); with Swedish model Jannike Björling, mother of his three-year-old son Robin (centre) and below with his new fiancée, Italian pop singer Loredana Berté.

champions, Borg did not choose to set himself a new challenge in the sport in which he had made his name. He did not set up the Bjorn Borg school of tennis coaching and he has not taken an active part in the Swedish Davis Cup process.

One barrier to a return to the court, even as a veteran competitor, he has been his own style

of tennis, famous for its very quick reflexes and a pantherlike fitness. It was not a pastime he could leave and find again, like riding a bicycle.

"Borg personified the concentrated athlete," says Peter Terry. "In his time, he was the most concentrated athlete in the world. But when his fitness went his concentration went too."

Terry estimates that it was in about 1983, two years after his retirement, that Borg realised there was no way back. Instead, there have been forays into business. He was recently in London to launch a perfume bearing his name, and his company, the Bjorn Borg Design Group, which employs between 20 and 30 people, has had some success in marketing travel bags, shoes and designer clothes.

Yet all this has the smack of sharp businessmen in the background, exploiting a name that is known wherever tennis is played. Borg does not himself give the impression of a man in the grip of the entrepreneurial spirit. Why should he? One who can afford to buy a 14-island archipelago off the coast of Sweden, not to mention a home in Monte Carlo, can hardly be short of a bob or two. Indeed it is thought that he made about \$83 million from his tennis career, making him Sweden's single richest taxpayer.

Since he played his final professional match in April 1983 (and lost to Jimmy Connors) Borg has been intermittently on the razzle, having his name linked with former soft-porn stars, and divorcing his wife, the Romanian tennis player Marianna Simionescu, whom he married in 1980.

## Astray

Ironically it was another Romanian, Ilie Nastase, who receives some of the blame for leading him astray. Insiders say that the former Wimbledon finalist, with his clownish temperament, has been better able to cope with the loss of eminence than the man who won five times.

Perhaps it was not so much the loss of the limelight that appears to have stricken the Swede, as the achievement of freedom. In July last year, when he was introduced into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, Rhode Island, he sounded a defensive note about his decision to quit at the age of 26.

"If I had any regrets I would have been back to tennis a long time ago. I felt I was really locked in a room. I didn't really see the world. I didn't really see myself as a human being. I played tennis and — yeah — I was happy. But I wanted to improve myself as a human being. In the end I was asking myself 'What are you doing?'"

To judge by last week's near disaster, it is a question which has only grown bigger for Borg since he left the sport.

# McEnroe mellowing at 30

By David Irvine

IT is not easy maintaining the role of perfectionist as the years hurry by at ever-increasing speed and the last of so many notable milestones in a stormy but brilliant career recedes further and further into the distance.

At 30, a landmark he reached in Milan, John McEnroe today still clings to the belief — and there are many who wish him well — that he is capable of reproducing, even improving on, the form, the skill and the consistency that took him to the top at 21 and kept him there for four years.

"I feel it's realistic, even if it's not probable," he says. "My main goal now is to play better than I've ever played before. If that means being No 5 in the world, that's fine with me."

Better even than in 1984? A year in which he crushed Jimmy Connors 6-1, 6-1, 6-2 in one of the most one-sided Wimbledon finals, and Lendl in straight sets to win both the US Open and the Masters? A year in which he had a win-loss record of 82-3? A year which was only marred when Lendl beat him in the French final after the American had led by two sets and a break?

"Well, I certainly don't go out there with the attitude that I can't be the best," he says, "and I know some areas of my game — my ground strokes for instance — are better than they ever were."

Nor is McEnroe prepared to concede that the competition is that much fiercer now than when he was cock of the walk. "I honestly don't feel that anyone above me is standing head and shoulders in the way."

Maybe he doesn't. But Lendl, restored to the No. 1 position after ending Mats Wilander's brief tenure at the Australian Open, has beaten McEnroe in each of his five matches since he last fell to the American at Montreal in 1985, and appears to have no doubts.

Whether or not the leading players are better than five years ago is hardly relevant anyway. The game itself has changed. Racket development and the new concentration on power means that young players are now hitting the ball far harder, making McEnroe's "touch" game increasingly difficult to control and lay the foundations for victory.



John McEnroe: thinking of fresh glories

Across the board, players are becoming noticeably fitter, faster and better equipped than five years ago. "There is no such thing as an easy match now," declared Lendl in Melbourne recently. "That is the biggest change in the game over the last few years."

Nor does anyone seem intimidated by the American any more. Too many lesser players — moderate opponents like Paul Annacone, Horacio de la Pena and Wally Masur — have beaten him in recent Grand Slam events for any opponent to feel he hasn't at least a chance of doing the same.

## Problem

Is it realistic anyway for McEnroe to think of fresh glories at 30, an age at which his own idol, Rod Laver, won his second Grand Slam but only his fellow Americans Jimmy Connors and Arthur Ashe and Australia's Ken Rosewall have matched since?

Like McEnroe, Rosewall — champion of France at 33, the US at 35 and the Australian at 37 — was a special case. But in every other way he was the antithesis of the American: calm, economical and totally dedicated to the game.

That, though, was in a different era, as the little Australian is always the first to acknowledge. "If I was playing those tournaments at that age now, I

doubt if I'd survive the first round."

McEnroe's problem is that his success has always owed almost everything to his uncanny speed — not just on his serve (like a whiplash in 1984) or in his footwork but, perhaps above all, through his uncanny anticipation at the net. Those were the areas Lendl exposed so ruthlessly last month in Melbourne.

By his own reckoning McEnroe played well. Yet on at least 20 occasions in a straight-sets victory Lendl produced inch-perfect backhand passes down the line which McEnroe, at the net, was unable to lay a racket on.

But there are other little tell-tale signs to suggest that what he says is maybe not what he really feels. In an unguarded moment he admits "the desire is not quite the same as it was" and wonders aloud if he will ever be as tough mentally as he was.

McEnroe has certainly mellowed. He events talks of his past on-court excesses with some embarrassment. Not that that stopped his recommending to one line-judge in Australia a course of action that was anatomically impossible.

Yet when McEnroe and Mark Woodford arrived on an outside court for a first-round doubles match the 8,000-seat stadium was full. Such is his pulling power, even after four years without a major success.

By Judy Byrne

AS old stager Ronald Reagan was taking his three-hanky final bow out of the White House, Hollywood was already preparing its film offers for him.

The first has already come from a low-budget company making a film about basketball star Pete Maravich. They have asked the ex-President to play his headmaster.

No doubt this will be the first of a flood of offers.

But as he was fading into the Washington sunset, his former political backers in California were already seriously asking themselves if they could pull off an encore for the presidency, this time with Charlton Heston in the leading role.

Reagan, in an interview squeezed in between the 100 parties thrown to say "good-bye" to him, admitted: "There have been times in this office when I've wondered how you would do the job if you hadn't been an actor."

## Nudges

Even his best friend would not call Reagan an intellectual giant, but he may have a point. In the age of television vote-catching, image can matter more than substance. And who can deliver his lines better than a man for whom it is his trade?

In Hollywood they are asking, if a B-movie actor could do so well in the White House what

could a real actor do, like Charlton Heston?

Heston is currently being given nudges from powerful quarters in the direction of the Governorship of California which they say could be his for the taking. It was also the Reagan route to power.

And there are other precedents besides Reagan for the switch from showbiz to politics. There is Italian Member of Parliament Ilona Staller, alias former porn star La Cicciolina, which translates as "Sweetie Pie." And Sophia Loren could soon be a member of the Italian Senate.

Clint Eastwood and Sonny Bono, formerly of Sonny and Cher, have both become mayors, while Melina Mercouri, the former Never On Sunday actress, is now one of the leading members of the Greek government.

Even if Reagan refuses to take up any film offers but simply enjoys a late retirement, an Oscar is still a possibility.

But star wars have broken out over moves by some of his old Hollywood pals like Bob Hope, Kirk Douglas, Heston, and Eastwood to get him one. Reagan, who failed to win one for any of his 53 screen performances, should have one, they say, for "services to the industry during his presidency."

Jane Fonda, Cher, Robert Redford and Woody Allen are fighting on the other side. They say he was no better as president

# Into the political spotlight leap stars of stage, screen and porn



Charlton Heston: in the running for governor of California?

than he had been as an actor, and point to the times when he failed even to remember his lines while in the highest office in the land.

He does not get a rave review either from 62-year-old Melina Mercouri, Greek Minister of Culture and former actress and film-maker. She describes Reagan as a "mediocre actor with a bad ideology."

Melina, one of the country's leading stage actresses for 20 years and documentary film-maker as well, has always been involved in politics. Her grandfather was once a Mayor of Athens.

Her socialism got her exiled from the country under the regime of the colonels and her plays and documentaries were blacklisted from television in the land where women got the vote for the first time only in 1956.

Melina's production of Medea, hailed as brilliant by the critics, was banned from the Athens Festival in 1976. But the tide has since turned her way.

## Content

Voters also made Clint Eastwood's day for him when they gave him an overwhelming 72 per cent of the votes for Mayor of Carmel, California, where water shortages and a ban on eating ice cream on the pavements were hot political potatoes.

Two years later, and still immensely popular among the 4,709 inhabitants, he bowed out to concentrate on making movies again.

But there was still talk of a vice-presidential nomination to run alongside George Bush. In Carmel, locals sported "Clint for President" T-shirts as the 57-

Ronald Reagan rocketed from B-movies to starring as president of the United States. Now Clint Eastwood and Charlton Heston are waiting in the wings... and an Italian Member of Parliament just can't stop stripping.



Ronald and Nancy Reagan: film offers from Hollywood



Former actress Melina Mercouri, a leading member of the Greek government.

year-old veteran actor, reckoned to be one of the richest men in Hollywood, made his final round of civic farewells.

The workaholic who first made his mark in the TV cowboy series Rawhide, likes to make three or four films a year, acting or directing. His name on the credits is enough to ensure a huge profit. And he got as rich as he is by pioneering the percentage-of-the-profits deal instead of a flat fee.

Right now he says he is content with filming. "I like the motion picture business and I hope to be

hanging around it for a long time," he says.

But does that mean he has said his last goodbye to the campaign trail? He admits it might not. He says: "I'm not interested right now." But he adds: "Never rule it out."

He would have one problem, and one of which he is no doubt aware — the preference of the American electorate for good, clean family men. And that means married, and still to their first wife.

Reagan had been married to Oscar-winning actress Jane



Jane Fonda: politically motivated. She once made a visit to North Vietnam

Wyman. They were divorced before he took up with scarlet Nancy who was eventually to become the driving force behind his White House throne.

And he got away with it — perhaps because his divorce was far enough in the past. Clint may be drawing from that the lesson that he would improve his chances by letting a few more movies flow under the bridge before he makes his bid.

Clint was married to ex-wife Maggie for 30 years before he met blonde actress Sondra Locke while filming The Outlaw Josey Wales in 1976. He left Maggie soon after, shattering a Hollywood legend of a match that would stand the test of time.

## Probably

He says he and Sondra will probably marry, but he does not know when. "I don't like fuss," he says.

But if he wants to set his sights on the White House, middle America will want the First Lady at his side to be a Mrs not a Miss.

As Eastwood was bowing out in Carmel, Sonny Bono's career as a politician was just kicking off in Palm Springs where the 54-year-old former half of the hit 'Sixties duo had outgunned six rivals.

Like Clint, he decided to try for the job after falling foul of the local planning authorities. Sonny wanted to enlarge his restaurant, Bono's, by building a disco and hosting rock and roll shows.

He said: "Clint did it, and I went. 'Yeah, I can do it, too'."

The present council is very silly about rules. They don't want anybody to make any noise or

music. They don't want any new development. I'm going to see if I can change things round here."

He did. And as soon as his victory was announced he said: "I'm going to give Palm Springs back to the people."

And he added: "Politics is the least honest business I've ever been in. It makes showbiz look like high school as far as ethics is concerned."

"But I'm determined to be a real good mayor."

Sophia Loren has no political ambitions. It is her fans who want them for her. More than half a million of them have signed a petition asking for her to be made a member of the Italian Senate for life. She would receive a tax-free pension of £10,000 a year.

## Irony

The irony of it is that only six years ago she was so out-of-favour with the Italian government that she served 17 days in jail for tax evasion.

And only a year ago she and husband Carlo Ponti won a ten-year-battle with the government for custody of their £15,000,000 modern art collection. The couple also went into exile rather than have Ponti serve four-year jail sentence for illegally exporting art from their Rome villa.

Now Sophia's home town is putting up a bronze statue of her and there are moves to have her £7,000,000 villa bought and kept as a national treasure rather than let it be sold to a private buyer.

If the move succeeds to put 54-year-old Sophia into the Senate, she will not be the only beauty on the government payroll. The MP for Latina, 50 miles south of Rome, is 37-year-old Ilona Staller who campaigned in stunning style, often blocking city traffic to do a striptease or appearing topless.

Her platform: "Down with nuclear energy, up with sexual

energy" not only won her votes.

Porn magazines featuring "her sold 'out' at election time" and some of her bolder poses were immediately issued.

"I'm a Green from the red-light district," she added as the liveried ushers of the Chamber of Deputies stood nervously by in case she repeated any of her campaign gimmicks — sheets and blankets at the ready.

She also claimed to be the only woman in the world to know all 69 positions of the Kama Sutra backwards and forwards. Even the wacky Radical Party on whose ticket she was riding did not think she had a chance of election.

In fact Ilona's topless show to 1,000 people in St Mark's Square, Venice, soon after she was elected MP, really overstepped the mark.

She has been sent for trial on charges of committing obscene acts in public and if convicted, could face three years in jail.

But defiant Ilona is unrepentant.

She says: "I won the campaign because I'm the secret lover of a million Italian men."

"I am bringing a little love into politics."



Sonny Bono: new career as a politician



Ilona Staller 'La Cicciolina' porn star and MP for the Radical Party in Italy.



Clint Eastwood: former mayor of Carmel, California may have higher political ambitions



## We are going to see mega-mergers in Europe, says expert

**As Europeans prepare for the single market, US investors are gearing up for a wave of takeovers and joint ventures.**

## Networks

This US expansion is expected to be only a trickle, however, in comparison with the flood of European companies which have

He estimates that from a base of zero, it would grow by an expected 20 per cent over the next two years.

"Inevitably, we are going to see mega-mergers in Europe. European enterprises must grow

The so-called "Baby Bells," the regional US telephone companies which were spun off after the court-ordered break-up of



that there is elsewhere," said a senior executive of First Boston corp.

Wilson of Paribas is also of this

**LBO funds** — in effect creating the Kohlberg Kravis Roberts firms of Europe — to generate a higher level of M&A activity. In addition, Shearson recently

### Reason

For this reason, he said, it would be hard to stop. In Britain, for example, Nestle was not prevented from taking over Rowntree.

The GEC-Plessey battle was difficult because it involved the defence business, a supplier to a national utility and other, highly sensitive national issues.

## Hu launches first fuel oil futures exchange

whole oil barrel in the futures market around the world," he said. "Singapore is in an ideal position to become the key oil trading centre in this region. With a refinery capacity of about one million barrels per day, it is now the third largest refining centre in the world after Houston and Rotterdam," Hu said.

**JAKARTA, Feb 21. (OPECNA):** Indonesian Minister of Mines and Energy Giandjar Kartasatama said at the week-end that the export price of the country's benchmark Minas crude would remain unchanged for February and March. Speaking to reporters after his meeting with President Suharto, the minister said Japanese buyers had agreed to the export price during talks with representatives of Pertamina, the state oil company. "It is hoped that the Minas price may be able to improve the oil prices of other OPEC member countries," he said, adding that Indonesia's oil exports to Japan now totalled 300,000 BPD. He predicted that world oil demand would increase in the third quarter of the year. The minister said the average price of Indonesian oil in 1988-89 would reach \$16.28 a barrel, compared with \$16 a barrel set earlier. Referring to the planned visit to Jakarta by an Australian Cabinet minister, Giandjar said the talks would focus on various problems relating to the joint exploration of natural resources, particularly oil and gas, in the Timor Gap.

## Policy

## Surge

Inflation was 8.9 per cent in January, and it is expected to be slightly higher in February.

For six months, the government was able to avoid a major devaluation by selling dollars on the open market.

## Personal comp

private computer firms have sprung up, mostly in the last three years, and are raking in big

business with the patriarch running the operation with a "hands-on approach."

own that isn't under the Greek flag. It's one of the better flags." Alafouzous, owner of 30 ships, said.

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إدارة المعارض العربية







International Bond Highlights

FRANKFURT: The European Investment Bank is issuing a 300 mln mark 10-year Eurobond with a 6-1/2 pct coupon and priced at par. Lead manager Trinkaus and Burkhart KGAA said. (KXSY 1415). In London, lead manager Instituto Bancario San Paolo di Torino said the EIB is also issuing a seven-year 100 mln ECU Eurobond with a coupon of 8-7/8 pct priced at 101-1/2 (KXBT 1426).

London: Marubeni International Finance PLC is issuing a 300 million Eurobond due March 2, 1993 paying five pct and priced at 101-1/2. Lead manager Yamachi International Finance Ltd said. (KXKI 1456).

London: Hammon Property Investment and Development PLC is issuing a 100 mln stg Eurobond due Dec 7, 2013, lead manager Kleinwort Benson Ltd said. (KXGV 0917).

Paris: Rhone Poulenc Commercial Finance BV is launching a 500 mln French franc five-year Eurobond, fully guaranteed by parent Rhone-Poulenc, lead manager Calson National de Credit Agricole said. (KXUK 1548).

Frankfurt: Mercedes-Benz AG is issuing an 80 mln mark seven-year bond by private placement, lead manager Bank of Tokyo Deutschland AG said. It has a 6-5/8 pct coupon and is priced at 101-1/2 to yield 6.35 pct at issue. (KXGU 0902).

Frankfurt: Primary Industries Bank of Australia Ltd is setting a 75 mln mark three-year private placement bond with a coupon of 6-3/4 pct and priced at 101-3/4 lead manager Commerzbank AG said. (KXGK 0837).

London: Svenska Handelsbanken is issuing a 50 mln Australian dollar two-year Eurobond with a 15-1/2 pct coupon priced at 101-3/4. Lead manager Hambros Bank said. (KXSY 1411).

Paris: French Motorway construction financing body, Caisse Nationale des Autoroutes, said it was launching a two billion franc domestic bond in two tranches, one paying a fixed coupon of nine pct, the other one of 8.80 pct. (KXST 1408).

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 12-3/4 1/2	12-15/16 13/16	13 12-7/8
FFY 5.80/90	5.80/90	6.45/55
PAR 8-13/16 15/16	8-13/16 15/16	9-1/16 3/16
ZUR 4-7/8 5-1/8	5-1/2 5-3/4	5-5/8 5-7/8
BRK 8.50	7-11/16 3/4	8-1/16 3/16
ROM 11-5/8 12-1/8	12-1/4 12-3/4	12-3/8 12-7/8
AMS 5.87/6.12	5.58/68	5.72/82
TOK 3.50/32 FOUR	4.10/52 12/32	4.17/52 19/32
ECU 8.00 8.25	8.37 8.50	8.62 8.75

Interest Rates

Following are the average KID interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, today.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	7-5/8	8-1/16
3 months	7-7/8	8-1/4
6 months	8	8-7/16
1 year	8-1/16	8-1/2

BOMBAY

PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	93	94	90 NICO	600	590	600
ACC 320	323	321	GNFC	43	43	43 MUKAND	81	83	81
ASIA PAINT 213.75	212.50	211.25	GRASIM	100	100	97.50 MOCIL	780	795	780
BAJAJ AUTO 181.25	180	179	SHRIL	132.50	131.25	127.50 ORKAY	22.50	22.25	23
BAR. RAYON 318.75	315	310	WIND LEVER	76	75	73.50 PEICO	21.50	20.50	21.50
BOM. DYING 122.50	123.50	122	HINDALCO	190	189	187 PFIZER	76	75	74
BR. BOND 115	114	113.50	HINDCOBDA	108.75	110	108 PRE. AUTO	44.50	44.50	44.50
BSE INDEX 648.75	661.76	660	INDROR	32	32.75	31 RAYMOND	72.50	72.50	71.50
CENTURYSPG 1550	1555	1540	INDRANON	88	86	86 SIEMENS	80	79	83
COLGATE 328.75	331.25	325	INDRANON	277.50	277.50	281.25 SPIC	47	48.50	46
DEEPAKERT 36.50	36	36.75	ITC	50.50	51	52 STONMILLS	225	230	235
ET. HOTEL 56	55	57.50	JKSYNTH	77	78.50	77 TATA PHR	347.50	350	357.50
ESKAYEF 133.75	136.25	133.75	L AND T	102	102	101 TATACHEN	113.50	112.50	113
ESSAR 22.50	22	22.50	MAHINDRA	91.50	93	92.50 TELCO	761.25	765	762.50
GAR. POLY 75	76.25	77.50	MASTERSHR	15.35	15.65	15.65 TISCO	1197	1210	1207
GE. SHIP 36	36.25	36	MATHER PL	48	47	49 VOLTAS	605	600	620

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR.	CLSE
AEG	215.0	212.0
ALLIANZ VR	1766.0	1795.0
BADENWERK	191.0	191.0
BASF	288.5	291.0
BAYER	298.5	300.0
BAYER HYP	365.0	369.0
BAYER VER	380.1	386.0
BBC	418.0	417.0
BFC	467.0	468.0
BHW	501.5	505.0
COMMERZBK	239.5	241.0
CONIT GUM	246.3	246.0
DAINER BEN	660.0	666.5
DEUTSC BNK	512.5	513.5
DLW	477.0	480.0
DRESDENER B	307.0	310.0
FAZ INDEX	553.80	556.61
FELDMUESE	309.30	309.00
GOLDSCHEID	390.00	389.00
HARPER	483.2	479.5
HOECHST AG	299.0	300.7
HOESCH	216.0	219.5
HORTEN	231.0	217.5
HUSSEL HLD	473.0	470.0
KALI SALT	196.0	199.0
KARSTADT	427.0	413.0
KAUFGHOF	418.0	414.0
KLOECK H	162.0	160.5
KLOECK W	150.2	157.0
LINDE	791.5	788.0
LUFTHANSA	166.2	168.5
MAN	249.0	249.3
MANHESMAN	512.8	512.0
MERCEDES	223.0	231.0
METALLGES	396.0	395.5
NIXDORF PF	310.9	302.0
NORSK HYD	42.70	42.00
PHILIP KON	674.0	675.0
PORSCHE	722.0	720.5
PREUSSAG	251.0	250.0
PHA	276.0	275.5
RHEINMETAL	434.0	421.0
RWE	254.5	257.5
RUE P	228.0	228.8
SALAMANDER	333.5	333.0
SCHERING	626.5	629.0
SEL	290.0	294.0
SIEMENS	520.0	522.1
THYSEN	210.2	210.5
VARTA	348.0	345.0
VEBA	284.3	286.0
VEV	170.2	170.0
VOLKSWAGEN	317.5	317.5

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR.	CLSE
C. H. TUNNEL	15.20	15.20
CHEUNG K	10.50	10.70
CHINA GAS	19.30	19.40
CHINA L-P	14.70	14.90
CHINA MOTR	27.20	27.40
CHONGHONG	3.90	3.92
EVEREST IND	3.72	3.85
FAR EAST C	.99	1.01
GEN ORIENT	0	44.00
H. C. DEVELOP	9.45	9.45
H. S. INDEX	150.64	159.84
HANG LUNG	6.45	6.35
HANG SENG	33.00	33.50
HAW PAR BR	11.60	11.60
HK ELEC CO	7.70	7.75
HK KOWLOON	10.60	10.70
HK LAND CO	11.20	11.20
HK SHAN BK	7.45	7.40
HK SHAN HT	6.35	6.45
HK TELE CO	5.60	5.55
HUTCH WHAM	11.20	11.20
IND EO PAC	11.60	11.60
JARDINE M	19.30	19.70
KOWLOON N	9.55	9.60
NEW WORLD	15.00	15.20
PAUL Y CON	1.60	1.64
REALTY DEV	7.70	7.70
S. H. K. CO	3.05	3.10
S. H. K. PROP	15.20	15.40
SIME DORP	2.92	2.95
STELUX PFC	3.47	3.50
SWIRE PAC	21.80	21.97
T. V. B. CO	1.37	1.41
TAI CHEUNG	5.00	5.15
UNION BANK	1.81	1.75
WOCK HAD	0	7.25
WOCK HAT	0	1.15
WORLD INTL	5.05	5.00

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR.	CLSE
AIJINOMOTO	2740	2780
AKAI ELEC	697	695
AKAI	1390	1420
ASAHI GLS	1950	1950
ASAHI OPT	770	772
BANK TOKYO	1650	1660
BRIDGESTON	1360	1360
CANON	1360	1400
CASIO COMP	1390	1380
CHUGAI PHM	1470	1460
CITIZEN W	943	916
DAI NIP PT	2650	2640
DAI NIP SC	976	960
DAI NIP TO	940	932
DAI NIP TO	905	895
DAI NIP TO	2010	2030
DAI NIP TO	2520	2570
DAI NIP TO	1350	1350
DAI NIP TO	2020	2000
DAI NIP TO	1440	1440
DAI NIP TO	3640	3680
DAI NIP TO	1750	1710
DAI NIP TO	1490	1530
DAI NIP TO	1560	1540
DAI NIP TO	1950	1950
DAI NIP TO	2410	2440
DAI NIP TO	1140	1140
DAI NIP TO	16300	16100
DAI NIP TO	905	870
DAI NIP TO	5210	5250
DAI NIP TO	1600	1600
DAI NIP TO	932	958
DAI NIP TO	989	1000
DAI NIP TO	1900	1910
DAI NIP TO	1270	1210
DAI NIP TO	979	975
DAI NIP TO	4670	4650
DAI NIP TO	1500	1510
DAI NIP TO	2760	2740
DAI NIP TO	2340	2340
DAI NIP TO	0	2660
DAI NIP TO	981	1000
DAI NIP TO	1660	1700
DAI NIP TO	1100	1100
DAI NIP TO	2850	2920
DAI NIP TO	1160	1190
DAI NIP TO	1200	1240
DAI NIP TO	2420	2410
DAI NIP TO	965	970
DAI NIP TO	1250	1250
DAI NIP TO	1220	1270
DAI NIP TO	2120	2180
DAI NIP TO	1800	1810
DAI NIP TO	1000	1030
DAI NIP TO	1750	1780
DAI NIP TO	960	970
DAI NIP TO	940	948
DAI NIP TO	1380	1400
DAI NIP TO	3900	3980
DAI NIP TO	930	935
DAI NIP TO	1150	1170
DAI NIP TO	1260	1250
DAI NIP TO	2920	2880
DAI NIP TO	960	950
DAI NIP TO	1120	1130
DAI NIP TO	2110	2140
DAI NIP TO	785	780
DAI NIP TO	2500	2510
DAI NIP TO	1940	1940
DAI NIP TO	1150	1140
DAI NIP TO	1680	1700
DAI NIP TO	6840	6840
DAI NIP TO	1460	1460
DAI NIP TO	1700	1720
DAI NIP TO	1530	1550
DAI NIP TO	2350	2370
DAI NIP TO	828	828
DAI NIP TO	452.91	470.37
DAI NIP TO	2300	2330
DAI NIP TO	1300	1270
DAI NIP TO	1280	1300
DAI NIP TO	7190	7300
DAI NIP TO	948	948
DAI NIP TO	1170	1160
DAI NIP TO	2130	2150
DAI NIP TO	842	842
DAI NIP TO	2470	2490
DAI NIP TO	1460	1460
DAI NIP TO	2060	2080
DAI NIP TO	3600	3610
DAI NIP TO	1490	1480

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE SHARPLY LOWER, AFTER EARLY GAIN. TOKYO, FEB 21, REUTER - SHARE PRICES REVERSED EARLY SMALL GAINS TO CLOSE SHARPLY LOWER. PRICES HAVE RISEN STRONGLY OF LATE, AND INVESTORS DECIDED TODAY WAS A GOOD TIME TO TAKE PROFITS AHEAD OF THE END OF THE MONTH AND EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY'S FUNERAL ON FRIDAY, BROKERS SAID.

"THIS IS NOT A CORRECTION, IT IS A HEALTHY PAUSE AFTER RECENT STRONG GAINS," SAID TOSHITSUGU OGIMURA, DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER AT TOKYO SECURITIES CO LTD.

THE NIKKEI INDEX FELL 197.00 POINTS, OR 0.61 PCT, TO 31,980.08, CLOSING BELOW 32,000 FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE TUESDAY OF LAST WEEK.

THE NIKKEI FIRMED 3.69 POINTS TO A RECORD CLOSE OF 32,177.08 ON MONDAY.

"WE ARE UP AGAINST A THREE-DAY WEEKEND AND THE END OF THE MONTH AND THAT LED TO SOME PROFIT TAKING," SAID HARUO KAKIMARU, A VICE PRESIDENT OF RESEARCH AT PRUDENTIAL-BACHE SECURITIES (JAPAN) LTD.

THE LAST DAY OF TRADE FOR FEBRUARY DELIVERY IS ON WEDNESDAY. TRADE USUALLY WINDS DOWN AT THE END OF A MONTH AS INVESTORS ADJUST THEIR POSITIONS.

THE MARKET WILL BE CLOSED FOR EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY'S FUNERAL ON FRIDAY.

THE NIKKEI ROSE 76.59 POINTS TO THE DAY'S HIGH OF 32,253.67 IN MID-MORNING TRADE, BUT FELL 227.15 POINTS TO THE DAY'S LOW OF 31,949.95 NEAR THE CLOSE.

MUCH OF THE LOSS CAME FROM PROFIT TAKING IN THE CONSTRUCTION SHARES THAT HAVE BEEN THE BACKBONE OF THE MARKET'S RECENT RALLY, BROKERS SAID. THESE AND OTHER LARGE CAPITAL ISSUES HAVE A RELATIVELY HIGH WEIGHTING IN THE NIKKEI.

THE BROADER FIRST SECTION INDEX, OR TOPIX, FELL 17.46 POINTS TO 2,452.91 AFTER A 2.96-PCT DROP ON MONDAY.

FALLS LED RISES BY EIGHT TO FIVE IN LIGHT TURNOVER OF 1.2 BILLION SHARES, UNCHANGED FROM MONDAY.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, FEB 21, REUTER - SHARE PRICES FELL BACK THIS AFTERNOON FOLLOWING A MORNING OF SEE-SAW TRADE.

THE HANG SENG INDEX FELL 9.2 POINTS TO 3,150.64, WELL BELOW A DAY HIGH OF 3,186 HIT IN EARLY TRADE.

SELLERS FOCUSED MAINLY ON PROPERTIES, PILING 46.66 POINTS FROM THE PROPERTIES SUB-INDEX WHICH ENDED AT 5,337.46.

"THERE WAS SELLING, BUT THERE WAS ALSO A LACK OF BUYING, SO THE MARKET WAS HIT BY A DOUBLE WHAMMY," A BROKER SAID.

"BUT THE U.S. WAS CLOSED ON MONDAY, U.S. CPI FIGURES ARE COMING OUT TOMORROW AND JAPAN IS CLOSED ON FRIDAY FOR THE EMPEROR'S FUNERAL, SO IT'S ONE OF THOSE DISRUPTED WEEKS."

AMMAN

ALADDIN COMPANY	OPNG	CLSE
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.		
ARAB BANK		
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	4.33	4.35
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.44	2.41
ARAB INSURANCE	1.11	1.11
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	0.57	0.57
ARAB INT. UNION INS	1.25	1.23
ARAB INTER. HOTELS		
ARAB JOR/INVT/BRK	2.35	2.35
ARAB PAPER CON/TRD	0.46	0.45
ARAB PHARMA/MAINF		
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	0.76	0.75
ARAB POTASH CO		
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN		
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CATRO AMMAN BANK	31.00	31.00
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.57	0.56
DAR ALDAWA DV/INV.		
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.		
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.75	0.71
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.55	4.55
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.65
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.34	1.30
GENERAL MINING		
HIMEN MINERALS	0.75	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44
IND. MATCH JEMCO		
INDSTR. DEVLPT BNK		
INDSTR. COMM/AGR.		
INTERN. COMM/INV	0.75	0.75
INTERN. COMM/INV	0.13	0.13
ISRID ELECTRICITY	0.90	0.91
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
ITERMED/PETRI/CH		
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	20.00	19.50
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR		
JOR EAGLE INV.	25.05	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER		
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY		
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.30	2.30
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	3.00	2.85
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.79	0.83
JOR LIN BRICK		



## UK stocks tracking Wall Street

## Dollar edges higher and gold gains

LONDON, Feb. 21. (Reuters): The dollar edged higher yesterday as market confidence grew that US central bank chief Alan Greenspan would reaffirm a commitment to tight monetary policy. Many European financial centres lacked direction from US markets which were closed yesterday for a public holiday.

The dollar would be boosted further if Federal Reserve Chairman Greenspan, who is due to begin a testimony on economic policy to Congress at 1500 GMT, repeated his recent remarks that the Fed should err on the restrictive side to fight inflation.

Dealers said that could mean higher US official interest rates which would attract more funds into dollar deposits.

But they noted that President Bush had recently said he was not in favour of a tighter policy.

The dollar stood around 1.8545 West German marks and 127.35 Japanese yen by midday in London after closing yesterday at 1.8435 and 126.45.

Major European stock markets were mixed after Tokyo closed sharply lower earlier in the day.

French shares were steady although screen-based trading in Paris was held up by technical problems.

West German stocks eased as the dollar's one-penny rise overnight revived market concern that domestic interest rates could be raised.

Earlier, Tokyo ended sharply lower after closing on Friday and Monday at all-time highs.

Investors decided to take profits ahead of the end of the month and Emperor Hirohito's funeral on Friday, brokers said.

**Lower**

"This is not a correction, it is a healthy pause after recent strong gains," said Toshitsugu Ogiwara, deputy general manager at Tokyo Securities Co Ltd.

The Nikkei Average fell 197 points to 31,980.08, closing below 32,000 for the first time since last Tuesday.

Hong Kong shares closed lower in volatile trading.

"There was selling, but there was a lack of buying, so the market was hit by a double whammy," a Hong Kong broker said.

Australian shares closed higher, consolidating gains made in yesterday's 24-point surge, brokers said.

Gold was set at \$382.75 an ounce in dull morning trading in London, a shade firmer than yesterday's \$382.50 finish.

Oil business was very quiet. North Sea Brent blend, the most widely traded crude, was quoted in London around \$16.30 a barrel for April loading, against 16.15 yesterday.

The benchmark US Treasury 30-year bond was quoted in London at 99-20/32 per cent, yielding 9.03 per cent.

In London shares were tracking Wall Street in afternoon business, retreating from the day's highs to the lows in a straight line after the New York market

reversed a modest early gain, dealers said.

Better than expected 1988 results from National Westminster Bank gave the market in general, and banks in particular, an early boost. By 1530 GMT, however, NatWest was up just one penny at 619 after an earlier quoted high of 633p.

**Down**

By 1532 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 0.1 point to 2,065.7 after a high of 2,076.3 shortly before the Wall Street opening.

NatWest today announced a rise in calendar 1988 pre-tax profits to £1.4 billion from 704 million while the dividend was raised to 28.25p from 24p. Brokers' forecasts started at around £1.37 billion pre-tax. NatWest chief executive Tom Frost said he was confident about profitability in the current year.

Midland Bank, due to report 1988 figures on Thursday, was 10p higher at 476, having touched a quoted 482p. Analysts

forecast pre-tax profits of £695 million against a £505 million loss in 1987 after Third World debt provisions.

Barclays was 5p higher at 460. Dealers reported some light switching out of NatWest into Barclays after the results news.

**Gains**

Brewing shares held on to earlier gains on renewed speculation that the monopolies report on UK beer supply, currently being examined by Britain's Trade Department (DTI), will not recommend a heavy restructuring of the industry.

The report is expected to be published next month soon after the merger probe into Elders IXL's hostile £1.6 billion bid for Scottish and Newcastle is completed and passed to the DTI.

Bass shares were up 11p to 956. Scottish and Newcastle held a 6p rise at 434 while Allied-Lyons was ahead 3p to 487. Guinness was up 4p to 415 on market talk that a broker strongly recommended the shares, dealers said.

## Greenspan reaffirms commitment to cooling off US inflation

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21. (Reuters): US Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan said today that the current rate of inflation in the United States was unacceptable, and that the central bank would continue a monetary policy of restraint.

In the Fed's semi-annual report on the state of the American economy, Greenspan told the Senate Banking Committee that the economic expansion remained vigorous and unusually well balanced after more than six years.

**Typical**

Greenspan's comments underlined an apparent difference in opinion between the Fed chairman and President Bush on how much the central bank needs to restrain economic growth to cool off inflation. Bush has said he is not "overly concerned" about inflation.

The typical signs of the last

phases of the business cycle are absent, Greenspan said.

"But with the economy running close to its potential, the risks seem to be on the side of a further strengthening of price pressures."

"In these circumstances, the Federal Reserve remains more inclined to act in the direction of restraint than towards stimulus," Greenspan said.

The administration is forecasting real GNP growth from the fourth quarter of 1988 to the fourth quarter of 1989 of 3.5 per cent.

It forecasts the GNP deflator will rise 3.7 per cent over the same period.

**Determination**

The Fed, presenting its projections to Congress, did not explain why it was estimating the consumer price index this year instead of the GNP deflator.

The Fed's determination to

move over time towards price stability led it to lower the ranges for money supply and credit growth in 1989, Greenspan said.

The range for M-2 was lowered by a point to 3 to 7 per cent. The M-3 target was cut by half a point to 3.5 to 7.5 per cent. The monitoring range for domestic nonfinancial debt was also reduced by half a point, to 6.5 to 10.5 per cent.

Greenspan said the appropriate growth of M-2 and M-3 relative to their ranges will be determined in part by developments during this year.

Greenspan said the Fed's policies should support real GNP growth of 2.5 to 3.0 per cent this year while creating the conditions for a gradual easing in inflation over time.

However, wage and price pressures have developed some momentum, which will lead to a slight increase in inflation this year.

## Non-OPEC countries likely to trim their production

## OPEC nations stick to new output accord: Subroto

VIENNA, Austria, Feb. 21. (AP): Fresh figures show OPEC oil nations are complying with a new production accord designed to lift world crude prices, a top official of the organisation said yesterday.

Subroto, secretary-general of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, said in an interview that crude prices will "definitely" reach the organisation's target of \$18 a barrel in the second half of this year.

The reference price will be reached "sooner rather than later" if members stick to their OPEC-set production quotas and if independent exporting nations reduce their output, he said.

**Output**

The average price of a basket of crudes monitored by OPEC was \$16.02 a barrel yesterday, up \$4 to 5 from the level in late November when OPEC oil ministers struck a deal to curb production.

Subroto, former Indonesian Oil Minister, predicted that non-OPEC nations would agree in the coming months to trim their output. Representatives of these nations meet today in London to discuss the situation.

"There is definitely a positive sign that ... they will do something in reducing the supply," he said.

He declined to speculate how much the nations might slash production. There have been reports of a possible 5 per cent cut.

**Agreement**

"It is in their interest to reduce the supply so that we can reach \$18 a barrel," he said. "The more they cut from their productions, of course, the sooner we can see it in dollars a barrel."

Subroto raised the possibility oil ministers from the independent producers might make a formal offer to their OPEC counterparts to trim output at a meeting

next month.

Eight OPEC ministers already are scheduled to gather here in Vienna the end of March to monitor results of the new production agreement.

The accord set an overall ceiling, or quota, of 18.5 million barrels a day for the 13 member nations in the first six months of this year.

According to figures released yesterday by OPEC, 12 of the countries supplied a total of 17.42 million barrels a day in January, a bit under the quota of 17.51 million barrels set for them.

The organisation said in a news release that figures from the United Arab Emirates had not yet been received.

Subroto said the supply figures provide "a sign that we are abiding (by) our quota."

Private analysts estimated OPEC surpassed its ceiling in January by about a million

barrels a day.

OPEC, however, said it measures the quota by totting up crude production plus the amount of oil put into, or taken out of, stock. Production, which it defines as the amount of crude measured at storage facilities, was 18.13 million barrels a day in January for the 12 reporting countries.

It marked the first time the organisation had released such monthly figures.

Subroto suggested that "OPEC has more or less found its form right now."

**Improvement**

"The atmosphere in OPEC and among the ministers is much better," he said. He attributed a major part of the improvement to an August ceasefire that ended eight years of fighting between Iran and Iraq, key OPEC members.

He also said he sensed oil market participants felt "more

comfortable toward OPEC behaviour."

The oil producers, he said, seem to be given credit for working to implement the new accord, "maybe not strictly up to the barrel in January, but the effort of member countries to adhere to their quota agreement has been very, very substantial."

The market, he said, also seems hopeful non-OPEC nations will help out. "Maybe the cut (by non-OPEC exporters) will be moderate but the political and the psychological meaning of that co-operation I think is substantial," he said.

Non-OPEC nations sending representatives to today's meeting are Oman, Mexico, Egypt, Malaysia, China, Angola and Colombia. The Soviet Union, Norway, the Yemen Arab Republic, the Canadian province of Alberta and the American state of Alaska were expected to send observers.

## Al Wattari for Jordan to take part in Arab energy meeting

KUWAIT, Feb. 21. (KUNA): The acting secretary-general of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) Abdel Aziz Al Wattari left here for Jordan to participate in tomorrow's meeting of the preparatory committee for the fifth Arab energy conference to be held in May of 1992.

The meeting will also be attended by Iraqi Oil Minister and chairman of the fourth conference Essam Al Chalabi, Jordan's minister of energy and mineral wealth and chairman of the fifth conference Hisham Al Khateeb and board chairman and director-general of the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development Abdel Latif Al Hamad.

The scheduled meeting is due to discuss steps endorsed to follow up recommendations and conclusions of the previous energy conference, particularly aspects relating to studies being conducted to be presented to the next conference, in addition to organisational and administrative procedures for the high-level gathering.

On the same day, Wattari will participate at the meeting of the technical committee for energy issues in Third World nations, a branch of the World Energy Conference.

On Feb 23, the OAPEC acting chief will deliver a lecture entitled "The impact of fluctuations in oil markets on Arab states," within a symposium on energy and oil matters in the Arab world, to be organised by the Jordanian Ministry of Energy and Mineral Wealth, AFSED and the WEC.

## China to limit experiment in shareholding

BEIJING, Feb. 21. (AP): China has put a two-year freeze on further experiments with allowing workers and the public to own shares in state-owned enterprises, the official Xinhua news agency said yesterday.

The agency quoted Zhang Yanning, vice-minister of the state commission for economic restructuring, as saying the spread of shareholding will be strictly controlled and there will be no expansion of experiments this year and next.

"No public assets are being allowed to turn into private property, and no state properties are being distributed to individuals in the name of the shareholding system," Zhang said.

## Indian shareholding firms dupe NRI investors

By W. Pereira

**NON-RESIDENT** Indians in Kuwait (NRIs) claimed today that Oswal Agro Mills had "deliberately duped" them by closing its largest ever rights issue of fully convertible bonds before non-resident shareholders had a chance to apply. The rights issue, worth Rs 308.7 crore (over KD16 million), closed yesterday.

**Forms**

After persistent pressure from NRI shareholders, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) compelled the management of Oswal Agro Furane Limited to renounce forty fully convertible bonds in favour of each NRI shareholder in the company. The firm said it had mailed renunciation forms to all NRI shareholders.

While not disputing that the forms were mailed, several shareholders told the Arab Times that they did not receive them in time. The forms were mailed on Feb 10, they said and received in Kuwait on the 18th, only two days prior to the Feb 20 application deadline. No courier service in Kuwait was willing to accept the responsibility of delivering the documents to Delhi in so short a time, the shareholders said.

In addition, Oswal Agro Mills added the stipulation that payments were to be made only by Indian Rupee Drafts purchased from abroad or by cheques drawn on New Delhi banks.

Shareholders here say that in regard to the first option, NRIs

typically do not maintain surplus funds abroad but repatriate them to India. At the same time, they add that most expatriate Indians keep their accounts in the financial centres of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, not New Delhi. Finally the shareholders complain, the time factor did not allow them to make alternative arrangements for funding.

In view of these problems, NRI investors in Oswal Agro are saying the company never intended to comply with the RBI issue order. Mailing the forms only ten days prior to closing the issue was "only a process to circumvent RBI directives and hoodwink the NRI shareholders," according to one investor. Advertisements by Oswal in major Indian papers state that an investment of Rs

10,000 in 1983 is now worth 10 lakhs.

Investors here are saying that given this rate of successful growth, it is not surprising that the company should wish to deprive NRIs of the right to increase their investments.

**Confidence**

Yet NRIs here claim occurrences such as this "erode their confidence" and "will ultimately negate government efforts in trying to bring NRI funds into India."

Some have requested India's Controller of Capital Issues to begin an inquiry into the handling of Oswal's latest rights issue, and to enforce legal rulings on the company to make amends by extending the closing date of this issue to NRI shareholders.

## WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

**SYDNEY**, Feb. 21. (Reuters): The market consolidated gains made in yesterday's 24-point surge and closed higher in reasonable volume. The All Ordinaries index rose 8.5 points to 1,481.3.

**TOKYO**: Shares reversed early small gains to close sharply lower. "This is ... a healthy pause after recent strong gains," a broker said. The Nikkei index fell 197 points to 31,980.08.

**HONG KONG**: Share prices fell after a morning of see-saw trade. The Hang Seng index fell 9.2 points to 3,150.64, well below a day high of 3,186 hit in early trade.

**SINGAPORE**: Interest in garment maker Wing Tai Holdings

Ltd, which made its debut today, dominated the otherwise quiet Singapore stock market, dealers said. The Straits Times Industrial Index fell 1.24 to 1,131.53.

**BOMBAY**: Share prices closed mixed in alternate bouts of speculative buying and selling after the market opened bullish. In textiles, Century fell 10 rupees to 1,540.

**FRANKFURT**: Shares ended a lacklustre session lower as the higher dollar rekindled fears about rising domestic rates. The Real-Time 30-share Day Index closed at 1,307.52, off 12.39 points from yesterday.

**ZURICH**: Swiss share prices closed little changed on low volume, with blue chips barely

steady and marginal gains in registered shares, dealers said. The All-Share Swiss index slipped 0.7 point to 979.6.

**PARIS**: Prices ended steady in relatively quiet trading on the first day of the new account. The 50-share price indicator ended 0.59 per cent up, compared with 0.50 per cent up at midday.

**LONDON**: Shares were tracking Wall Street in afternoon business, retreating from the day's highs of the lows in a straight line after the New York market reversed a modest early gain. By 1532 the FTSE 100 index was down 0.1 to 2,065.

**NEW YORK**: Wall Street stocks were moderately lower at midday amid disappointment Federal Reserve Chairman Greenspan was not more forceful in his testimony to a Senate committee.

## Sudan, Libya set up joint bank

**KHARTOUM**, Feb. 21. (Reuters): Sudan and Libya, bound by close political and military ties, have established a joint bank with a \$50-million capital, the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported today.

**Capital**

It said the agreement was signed yesterday by Sudanese Finance Minister Omar Nour Al-Dayem and Libyan envoy Jaglou Al Sanousi. The bank will have its headquarters in Khartoum.

SUNA said Sudan would pay the equivalent of its \$25-million share of the capital in local currency because of its acute shortage of foreign currency.



A technical seminar was held at the Meriden Hotel, for the staff of Tires Center Co., the sole distributors of Ohtsu brand tires from Japan. F. Uchi, technical manager for Mideast/Europe office, illustrated the various facts and new information about tires and the trend in the world tire industry. At the meeting Uchi explained the advantages of the new Ohtsu tire "Falken" high performance tire. F. Uchi of Ohtsu Tire and Rubber Co. Ltd pictured with the staff of Tires Center Co.



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Tommy Lee Jones (left) and Duvall on the sets of Lonesome Dove with director Sam Winchester.



Robert Duvall plays a former Texas Ranger in Lonesome Dove, a television mini-series.

## A welcome return to the small screen

## Robert Duvall is back in the saddle

By Ivor Davis

ROBERT DUVALL says the \$20 million, eight-hour CBS-TV mini-series *Lonesome Dove* was a more attractive project than *The Godfather*, the 1972 feature film in which he starred. That's quite a statement coming from the 57-year-old thespian who has appeared in almost 40 movies in the last 25 years and is regarded as one of the best actors in the business.

"The people in this mini-series are more valid and more interesting to me than organized crime in America," says Duvall, comparing the TV movie based on Larry McMurtry's Pulitzer prize-winning novel to the feature film adapted from Mario Puzo's novel on the life and times of Mafia patriarch Don Corleone.

*Lonesome Dove* is about two former Texas rangers — the charming Augustus "Gus" McCrae (Duvall) and the taciturn Capt. Woodrow F. Call (Tommy Lee Jones) — who leave

their cattle ranch in the small Texas town of Lonesome Dove to establish a ranch in the last remaining undeveloped Montana territories. Anjelica Huston plays Clara Allen, McCrae's love interest; Danny Glover portrays Joshua Deets, a talented tracker and scout; and Ricky Schroeder is Newt Dobbs, the naive youngster who joins the long trip north — and grows up in the process. Also co-starring are Diane Lane, Robert Ulrich, Frederic Forrest, D.B. Sweeney, Chris Cooper and Glenn Headley.

## Return

With his appearance in *Dove*, Duvall makes a welcome return to the small screen — his last TV outing was in 1978 when he portrayed Dwight D. Eisenhower in *Like the War Years*. He says he hopes the mini-series will revive the popularity of Westerns.

"Just about every actor you talk to today says he wants to do a Western," says Duvall. "People in the streets and in the country say they would love to see a

Western, yet Westerns never sell tickets and I don't know why. When I worked in England people asked, 'What's the West really like?' They want to know. But as far as I'm concerned, if I never did another Western I would be happy because this ('Dove') is the ultimate.

Duvall says once he picked up the McMurtry novel he couldn't put it down. "It is wonderful literature — superior to *The Godfather*. But I'm not saying that this film is as good a movie as *The Godfather*."

Like Meryl Streep, Duvall is a chameleonlike actor whose persona disappears once he steps into his role. He is so good that on-screen you forget he is acting. It is also hard to pinpoint his personality offscreen; he can walk throughout any major city without being recognised. Even winning an Academy award for best actor in *Tender Mercies* (1983) didn't change his lifestyle and his second wife Gail Youngs commutes between their

New York City home and their Virginia horse ranch.

Duvall began his acting career at New York's Neighbourhood Playhouse, which established the careers of many of today's stars. It was there that he met playwright and screenwriter Horton Foote. Duvall landed roles in television series, including *The Twilight Zone*, *Naked City*, and *The Defenders*, and eventually made his feature-film debut as Boo Radley in the Horton Foote-scripted *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1962).

*Lonesome Dove* is not Duvall's first Western. He appeared in *True Grit* (1969), and Joe Kidd (1972) and *Tender Mercies*. Other memorable screen roles include the ruthless TV boss in *Network* (1976); the surfing, war-loving Air Force colonel in *Francis Ford Coppola's Apocalypse Now* (1979); the strict military father in *The Great Santini* (1980); and the corrupt Irish cop in *True Confessions* (1984). More recently, he

starred with his wife Gail in *The Stone Boy* (1984); played a psychopathic bank robber in *The Lightship* (1985); a preacher in *Belizaire the Cajun* (1986); and a streetwise veteran cop trying to curb the brash Sean Penn in *Colors* (1988).

Duvall says he has avoided television roles. Why? "Because you have so many people to answer to... so many chiefs and bosses right up the ladder; in film you don't have that."

But it was the McMurtry novel that captivated him and persuaded him to do a small-screen role. "I was alerted to the project six or eight months before we started shooting," says Duvall. "So I got a run on the part, which was good because there was a lot to learn about such a guy (McCrae) and such a time in history. People keep asking me how I prepared to play Gus — well, the book was my guide. I found that McMurtry gave me what I needed to know... It's the

## Oscar race in full swing

By John Horn

BEVERLY HILLS, California. (AP) Rain Man, a Dustin Hoffman-Tom Cruise drama of a self-absorbed car dealer learning to love his autistic brother, have been nominated for eight Oscar nominations including best picture.

In collecting the most nominations for the 61st Academy awards, the movie that overcame production obstacles also garnered a best-actor nomination for Hoffman and a directing honour for Barry Levinson.

"I'm happy for Barry Levinson, the film and everybody connected with it," said Hoffman, whose depiction of an autistic savant brought the actor his sixth Oscar nomination. He won best actor in 1979 for *Kramer vs. Kramer*.

Earning seven nominations each were *Dangerous Liaisons*, a drama set in the bedrooms of the elite in pre-revolutionary France, and *Mississippi Burning*, a controversial exploration of the FBI's handling of the 1964 murder of three civil rights activists.

Both were nominated for best picture, as were *The Accidental Tourist*, an adaptation of Anne Tyler's novel about the heartbreaks and romances of a travel writer, and *Working Girl*, a corporate Cinderella story about a secretary on Wall Street.

Sigourney Weaver claimed a rare double nomination for best actress for *Gorillas in the Mist* and *The Accidental Tourist*, and best supporting actress as a shrewish executive in *Working Girl*.

The awards will be presented on March 29.

Joining Weaver in the best actress competition were Glenn Close, *Dangerous Liaisons*; Jodie Foster, *The Accused*; Meryl Streep, *A Cry in the Dark*; and Melanie Griffith, *Working Girl*. Streep, who won in 1979 for *Kramer vs. Kramer* and in 1982 for *Sophie's Choice*, now has eight Oscar nominations in 15 roles. Griffith's nomination was her first.

Facing Hoffman in the best actor race will be Gene Hackman for *Mississippi Burning*, Tom Hanks for *Big*, Edward James Olmos for *Stand and Deliver*, and Max von Sydow for the Danish *Pelle the Conqueror*.

Best director nominees included Charles Charles Crichton



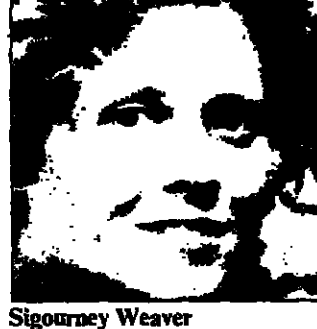
Glenn Close



Meryl Streep



Jodie Foster



Sigourney Weaver

for *A Fish Called Wanda*, Alan Parker for *Mississippi Burning*, Mike Nichols for *Working Girl* and Martin Scorsese for *The Last Temptation of Christ*, a film criticized by religious groups as blasphemous.

Levinson, the fourth director of *Rain Man*, took control of a project burdened by months of delays and rewrites. Once filming

started, he came to Hoffman's rescue when the actor feared his depiction rang false.

"It really was charming from the beginning," said producer Mark Johnson. "It was next to impossible to put together the film (in eight weeks). But there hasn't been a stumble along the way."

Nominated for best supporting actress were Joan Cusack for *Working Girl*, Geena Davis for *The Accidental Tourist*, Frances McDormand for *Mississippi Burning*, Michelle Pfeiffer for *Dangerous Liaisons* and *Working Girl's* Weaver.

Veteran actor Alec Guinness, co-star of *Little Dorrit*, received a nomination for best supporting actor, as did Kevin Kline for *A Fish Called Wanda*, River Phoenix for *Running on Empty*, Dean Stockwell for *Married to the Mob* and Martin Landau for *Tucker: The Man and His Dream*.

"It's a wonderful way to wake up," said Landau, upon learning that he had received his first Oscar nomination. "As a kid in Brooklyn, I dreamed of this. I think everyone does."

Among multiple nominees, *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*, the inventive comic blend of animation and live action, drew six nominations, all for technical achievements. *Working Girl* also collected six nominations, including best original song for Carly Simon's *Let the River Run*.

Other multiple nominees included *Gorillas in the Mist* with five and *The Accidental Tourist* and *Die Hard* with four nominations each. A *Fish Called Wanda* and *Tucker* both drew three combinations.

Among the films and performers attracting little or no attention from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences were *A Cry in the Dark*, *Bird* and *Bull Durham*, each collecting only one nomination.

There was no apparent backlash against *Mississippi Burning*, widely accused of rewriting the history of the civil rights movement and overemphasizing the role of the "white" law enforcement agents at the expense of "blacks."

Nominated for best foreign language film were Hungary's *Hanussen*, Belgium's *The Music Teacher*, India's *Salaam Bombay* and Spain's *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*, and Denmark's *Pelle the Conqueror*.

## Karen Carpenter story on film

## Recreating a tragic moment in music history

By Ivor Davis

FANS are used to their pop-musicians biting the dust all too soon — Elvis Presley, Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, Brian Jones (of the Rolling Stones), Jim Morrison (of the Doors). Premature deaths have become part of music history.

Despite the tragedies, the world was still shocked when the news broke on Feb 4, 1983, that 32-year-old Karen Carpenter — half of the singing Carpenters — was dead. However, her early demise was not the result of alcohol or drug abuse but anorexia nervosa.

Karen's death came as a surprise because she and her brother Richard did not fit the self-destructive pop-music profile. Theirs was not a world peopled by rock 'n' roll groups or life in the fast lane. They were the clean-cut brother-and-sister act from Downey, Calif., singing of love and hope and happiness.

But subsequent cuts rendered much of the public saw was only the tip of the iceberg. Sure, the Carpenters had become a successful musical duo during the '70s with 16 consecutive Top 20 hits, 10 gold singles, three gold albums and five platinum albums. What people did not know about was Karen's battle with the little-known disease and Richard's struggle to overcome an addiction to Quaaludes.

The story of Karen's psychological and physical disintegration is laid out for all the world to see in the CBS-TV movie *The Karen Carpenter Story* starring Cynthia Gibbs and Mitchell Anderson as the wholesome duo. The film covers a 20-year period from the Carpenters' simple beginnings to Karen's untimely death.

## Intriguing

What makes the movie intriguing is that it is produced by Richard in conjunction with Weintraub Entertainment Production Inc., the movie company headed by Jerry Weintraub, who for seven years managed the Carpenters. Now that the film is about to air Richard has mixed feelings about what has been wrought.

"I knew going in on this project we were dealing with a docudrama, with the emphasis on drama," says Richard, 37, who today is married with a 15-month-old daughter named Kristi. "But there are still things



Cynthia Gibbs plays Karen Carpenter, the female half of the popular singing duo The Carpenters, who died in 1983 from anorexia nervosa at age 32.

that are underplayed as well as overplayed. It took four years before I was happy with the script. The story line has tension and conflict — two favourite words of the network.

The Karen Carpenter Story

tackles the singer's obsessiveness with her weight, which stemmed from her teens when a critically called her chubby. It is also frank about Richard's addiction to sleeping pills — Karen, in a rare moment of petulance, says, "Richard is turning into a drug fiend." (Today, Carpenter says he is clean and has been off Quaaludes for more than a decade.)

The movie suggests that in the end Karen might have overcome the disease, but died when her heart gave out because she had abused her body for so long. "The treatment she finally got for her illness was not the treatment she should have got," says

Richard. "In the film it got diluted... We didn't go into it for legal reasons and also because you're packing 20 years into 90 minutes. I wanted to get more into the treatment she received in New York."

## Unhappy

Richard says he was unhappy with the psychiatric treatment his sister was given, which was followed by hospital stays where she was fed intravenously for months until she put on weight. She returned home for Thanksgiving in 1982 — but died three months later.

The family has little faith in

psychiatry, although today it is considered an important part of the overall treatment for anorexic patients. In one scene, after a doctor explains the psychological aspects of her daughter's eating disorder, Karen's mother Agnes (Louise Fletcher) says, "...and we came 3,000 miles for this nonsense."

Six years after his sister's death Richard says: "The explanation that she starved herself because this was the only thing in her life she could control is what they say about all anorexics. I don't know, but Karen was in a position to do pretty much what she pleased."

Richard took care to not only choose actors who closely resemble him and his sister, but allowed Gibbs to wear most of Karen's original clothing. Camera crews were also permitted to film in the Carpenter house in Downey — including the final scene where Karen dies in her bedroom at her parents' home.

Richard's parents Harold and Agnes Carpenter often watched on the sidelines as the tragedy was re-created — but for Karen's death scene they left the house. Richard says his parents fully approved allowing the cameras into their home as well as into Karen's bedroom.

Events "I was trying to get as close to the actual events as they occurred," he says. "I suppose it was bizarre, but that's how it worked out. One night we came home around midnight and they were doing an emotional scene, so we sat in the kitchen and listened to all this yelling coming from the other room."

There will be no sound-track album from the film — "That reeks of commercialism," says Richard, who has been recording solo albums as well as producing records for other artists. The Carpenters' music still sells world-wide and Karen is gone but not forgotten. There is a Karen Carpenter Memorial Foundation providing funds to the Eating Disorders Clinic at the University of California, Los Angeles, and Johns Hopkins University Medical Centre in Baltimore.

"I had to think whether Karen would have wanted the film done," says Richard. "I think she would have because she was straightforward about herself. I hope the film may also do some good for people suffering from anorexia."

Omar Sharif and Peter O'Toole (right) in the re-released version of the 1962 epic *Lawrence of Arabia*.

## Lawrence of Arabia rides again

By Christopher Michaud

NEW YORK. (Reuters): It took 26 years, but they finally got it right.

*Lawrence of Arabia*, Sir David Lean's epic masterpiece, has endured countless indignities dating back to its 1962 cinema release, including drastic editing and some television presentations that lopped off more than half its running time.

But now the tale of British officer T.E. Lawrence, played by Peter O'Toole in the role that made him a star, and the revolt of his ragged band of Arab tribesmen against their Turkish oppressors, has been restored to a pristine version that at last meets with Lean's full approval.

The restoration and re-release of the film meant far more than a mere re-editing. Since its initial release in December 1962, *Lawrence of Arabia* had been shortened three times, to make the 222-minute original more commercially attractive.

The camera negative of the film, a victim of overuse and poor storage, had begun to disintegrate.

Robert Harris, who supervised the restoration of Abel Gance's silent classic *Napoleon* in 1981, sifted through four tonnes of "Lawrence" footage — every print of the film known to exist in the world.

Harris said the restoration began because he wanted to see the full original version.

"I first saw it when I was 17, and it was the film that made up my mind that I wanted to go into filmmaking. Steven Spielberg and Martin Scorsese said the same thing," he said.

first released it, had discarded the film's music tracks and had no record of its sequence.

Harris and partner Jim Painten assembled their version from cuts and trims, the original camera negative, and surviving 35mm work prints.

To replace missing sound elements, they gathered O'Toole and other cast members Omar Sharif, Sir Alec Guinness and Anthony Quinn into studios around the world.

The film's original editor, Anne Coates, who won an Oscar for her work, advised the team on the sequence of the scenes.

More than two years and \$600,000 later, Harris and Painten presented Lean with a 70mm, six track Dolby version of the film. The original won seven Oscars, including best picture and best director.

## Cut

Lean then did a final cut, trimming a few minutes and tightening it up. The new — by all accounts, the ultimate — *Lawrence of Arabia* now runs 216 minutes.

The restored version of the film is expected to be seen in Europe later this year.

Harris said *Lawrence of Arabia* cost \$12 million to make in 1962, a huge sum for the time. "If it were made today," he added, "it would run to about 75 or 80 million."

The new film keeps intact O'Toole's classic performance. "O'Toole in all his guises is so flamboyantly brilliant that it's hard to believe that (the film) could ever have been built around any other actor," wrote critic David Denby.

Filming *Lawrence of Arabia* was nearly as gruelling as the hardships depicted in the film, as Lawrence leads his men with few

provisions on camelback through blistering deserts.

Lean's sweeping desert sequences, filmed on location in Jordan and Morocco, the battle scenes with the proverbial cast of thousands and performances by Guinness, Sharif (in his first film in the West) and Quinn melded in what many consider Lean's greatest cinematic achievement.

But subsequent cuts rendered much of the film nearly incomprehensible. One entire reel was transposed, so that Lawrence and his men seemed to be pushing the Turks further into, not out of, Arabia. On television, Oscar-winner Frank Young's expansive cinematography was reduced to about half its size, resulting in perplexing shots of empty desert.

At the gala premier of the restored "Lawrence" at New York's Ziegfeld cinema this month, Lean said of TV: "The box is okay — it shows the middle third of the film," but "this (the Ziegfeld's panoramic screen) is what the movies should be shown on."

The sell-out benefit for the American film institute was also attended by directors Scorsese and Spielberg, who helped speed the restoration through studio red tape.

The film is now preceded by an overture, and audiences enthusiastically applaud the opening credits.

Coming on the heels of a recent overhaul of *Gone With the Wind*, the *Lawrence of Arabia* restoration is likely to clear the way for more cinematic salvage operations.

After *Napoleon*, restorations included *A Star Is Born* with Judy Garland, Frank Capra's *Lost Horizon* and silent films such as *The Thief of Baghdad* with Douglas Fairbanks.



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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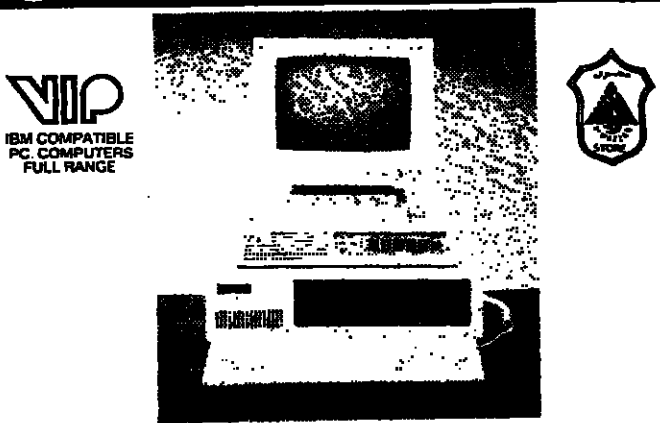
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QADIR SNAPS UP SEVEN WICKETS FOR 31

# Pakistan crush Shell XI

LONDON, Feb 21, (Reuters): Ian Woosnam, the world's top golfer in 1987, is the player in the spotlight as the scramble for Ryder Cup points and a place in Europe's team to face the United States in September begins this week.

A season which will reach its climax in Sutton Coldfield, England, in seven months begins in the warmth of the Canary Islands on Thursday.

The Tenerife Open at La Laguna is the newest event on an expanded European Tour this year offering prize money totalling £13.25 million (\$23,452,000).

Woosnam begins this year's campaign after a 1988 season which was dismal by his 1987 standards, when he won or shared in 10 titles. Last year he took just three, but they were three of the top European tournaments.

The little Welshman plans to concentrate on Europe in 1989 to regain the money-winning title he lost to Spain's Seve Ballesteros last year.

## Ranked

He will be looking this week to steal a march on world number one Ballesteros and Britons Sandy Lyle and Nick Faldo — ranked two and five respectively — who are all, for the moment, pursuing bigger money on the US Tour.

But those four, the architects of Europe's second successive Ryder Cup triumph at Muirfield Village, Ohio, in 1987, have virtually been pencilled in for team places by captain Tony Jacklin. Should any of them fail to earn their spurs by finishing in the top nine on the money list after the German Open on August 27 — the 27th event of the tour — Jacklin can include them in his three wild card selections for the shoot-out at the Belfry in the English Midlands from September 22-24.

Jacklin said recently that, beyond his leading quartet, places in the European team were wide open. "I'm hoping (the four) all qualify as of right. If that happens I can honestly say, hand on heart, that I haven't a clue yet about who will fill those wild card places," Jacklin said.

Jacklin sincerely hopes Bernhard Langer can overcome the putting problems that have bedevilled him over the last nine months.

The popular West German US Masters champion in 1985, was number one in the world when ranked were instituted in 1986 but has since dropped to 17th. Back and gum problems have also affected him, but the putting, not for the first time in his career, has troubled him most.

He is fighting back with an odd method whereby he grasps the club handle and his left wrist in his right hand, using his left hand for the power. So far the evidence is encouraging.

## Merit

Jacklin will also be counting on established players like Jose Maria Olazabal of Spain and Howard Clark of Britain to seize places on merit. Clark, like Faldo before him, has had his swing revamped in the past year by Florida-based coach Dave Leadbetter.

Another stalwart of past teams, Scotsman Sam Torrance, must also overcome putting problems to claim his place after dropping outside the top 50 on the 1988 money list.

There were eight new winners on the European Tour in 1988 and Jacklin hopes a new star or two will emerge from that group. Englishman Peter Baker is the most widely tipped for more honours. Winner of the York International, where he eagled the last hole then beat Faldo in a playoff, Baker may, at 21, be the new star of the Tour.

The Irish trio of Eamonn Darcy, Ronan Rafferty and Des Smyth must all be contenders for Ryder Cup places after their triumph as outsiders in the 1988 Dunhill Cup, while perhaps a Swede will finally make the team. Jacklin regards Anders Forsbrand as the best bet with Ove Sellberg and Mats Lanner right behind. "I admire the way the Swedes have gone about producing top class golfers. I wouldn't be surprised to see at least one of them in this year's team," he said.

## Marshall

The task at the Belfry will be formidable against an imposing US squad being marshalled by new captain Ray Floyd.

Before the Cup, there will be the usual US invasion for the British Open in July at Troon, Scotland.

Then at the end of the season the top 70 moneywinners gathered in Spain for the second Volvo Masters. Last year Faldo overhauled Ballesteros and Lyle on the last day to snatch victory.

There is a problem this time in that the Masters conflicts with the US Tour's equivalent, which could conceivably cost the Valderama tournament one or two of the big names, especially Lyle and Faldo.

NAPIER, New Zealand, Feb 21, (Reuters): Leg spinner Abdul Qadir snapped up seven for 31 in a devastating spell three days before the final cricket Test against New Zealand as Pakistan beat Shell XI by 131 runs today.

Qadir took all his wickets in the final session of the three-day match at McLean Park where the Shell side, needing 283 to win in a minimum of 53 overs, collapsed from 79 for two to 152 all out.

It was a measure of the Pakistani slow bowler's performance that he devastated the Shell XI in 18 overs on a pitch which posed very few problems for the batsmen.

## Abandoned

Qadir's timely reminder of his skills came ahead of the deciding third Test against New Zealand starting at Auckland's Eden Park on Friday. The first Test was abandoned because of rain and the second was drawn.

Qadir was unrewarded when the Shell side went to tea at 79 for two, but the wrist spinner soon found his rhythm to snatch seven of the remaining wickets while the batsmen could add only 73 runs.

Opener David White, top scorer with 42, played adventurously at times and shared a



Qadir gives the Kiwis a timely reminder of his skills

third wicket partnership of 55 with Rod Latham (24) before being sixth out at 92.

When Pakistan resumed the third day on 57 without loss in their second innings — 141 ahead overall — Mudassar Nazar (97)

and Salim Malik (48) put their team firmly in control.

Pakistan's declaration came when Mudassar was out at 198 for four, having hit 14 boundaries. Malik scored his runs in 63 minutes from 67 balls.

**Scoreboard**  
PAKISTAN first innings 280 for nine declared (Imran Khan 104, Aamer Malik 81, Shoaib Mohammad 56 G. Robertson five for 44)  
SHELL XI first innings 196 for five declared (T. Blain 79 not out)  
PAKISTAN second innings (overnight 57 for two no wicket)  
Mudassar Nazar c Priest b Larsen 97  
Rizwan-uz-Zaman c Brown b Robertson 27  
Salim Malik lbw b Priest 48  
Salim Younis c Larsen b Priest 20  
Aamer Malik not out 9  
Extras (b-4 nb-2) 6  
Total (for four declared) 198  
Fall of wickets: 1-61 2-126 3-192 4-198  
Bowling: Beyer 9-2-38-0, Robertson 9-1-41-1, Brown 9-2-31-0, Priest 18-4-62-2, Larsen 15-4-5-38-4

**SHELL XI second innings**  
D. White c Malik b Qadir 42  
P. Dobbs lbw b Imran 13  
G. Larsen c sub (Rameez) b Jaffer 10  
R. Latham c Aamer b Qadir 10  
T. Blain c Younis b Mudassar 3  
C. Kaggale c Jaffer b Mudassar 24  
S. Brown c sub (Ejaz) b Qadir 23  
M. Priest b Qadir 14  
G. Robertson b Qadir 14  
F. Beyer not out 8  
Extras (b-4 nb-4) 5  
Total 152  
Fall of wickets: 1-23 2-24 3-79 4-79  
5-84 6-92 7-121 8-123 9-151  
Bowling: Imran 7-4-20-1, Jaffer 9-1-38-1, Aamer 6-0-36-0, Qadir 18-6-31-7, Mudassar 8-1-18-1, Shoaib 1-0-1-0  
Result: Pakistan won by 131 runs

## Cavaliers blast Rockets

NEW YORK, Feb 21, (AP): Mark Price scored 27 points and Larry Nance blocked seven shots as the Cleveland Cavaliers used a relentless defense to beat the Houston Rockets 110-90 for their 18th straight home victory.

The Cavaliers, improving the NBA's best record to 39-12, swarmed over Akom Olujuwon whenever he touched the ball and made the Rockets' centre work hard for all of his 21 points, more than three under his average.

**Bulls 102, Trail Blazers 96**  
Michael Jordan scored 33 points and top draft choice Will Perdue hit two key baskets as Chicago defeated Portland.

Jordan scored 12 in the final quarter. He hit five straight free throws at the end of the game.

**Nuggets 102, Pistons 101**  
Alex English's 30 points and a missed 18-footer by Isiah Thomas with three seconds left in the game enabled Denver to withstand a furious Detroit.

Thomas shot hit the rim, and

he rebounded under the basket. But Fat Lever stole the ball before Thomas could get off another shot.

**Hawks 114, Clippers 100**  
Dominique Wilkins scored 30 points and Moses Malone had 21 points and 15 rebounds to lead Atlanta over the Los Angeles Clippers 114-100.

It was the Clippers' 24th loss in their last 25 games and was the Hawks' fourth victory in five games since the All-Star break.

**Nets 117, Heat 109**  
Roy Hinson scored 24 points and Chris Morris 23 as the New Jersey Nets defeated the Miami Heat 117-109, ending the expansion team's two-game winning streak.

Miami, which had trailed by 16 points late in the second quarter, rallied in the third period, taking one-point leads.

**Mavericks 105, Spurs 93**  
Rolando Blackman scored 19 of his 37 points in the fourth period as the Dallas Mavericks

defeated the San Antonio Spurs for the ninth consecutive time, 105-93.

The Mavs also got 16 points and 21 rebounds from James Donaldson as Dallas outrebounded the Spurs 59-30.

**Jazz 118, Suns 92**  
Karl Malone scored 28 of his 35 points in the first half as the Utah Jazz won their fourth straight game, defeating the Phoenix Suns 118-92.

John Stockton added 19 points and 17 assists for the Jazz, while Thurl Bailey had 17 points and Darrell Griffith 16.

**Lakers 100, Kings 97**  
Two free throws by David Rivers with four seconds left clinched the Los Angeles Lakers' 100-97 victory over the Sacramento Kings.

Byron Scott scored 33 — just two points shy of his season-high — to pace the Lakers. Kenny Smith and Ricky Berry led Sacramento with 15 points apiece.

## Minnesota gets 1993 Games

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb 21, (AP): The state of Minnesota has landed the 1993 World Masters Games, which are expected to attract about 15,000 athletes and pump an estimated \$34 million into the state's economy, officials announced yesterday.

Governor Rudy Perpich received the news in a telephone call from Lt. Gov. Marlene Johnson, who was in Denmark to make the state's formal presentation.

## Hosted

The decision was made earlier yesterday, Johnson said.

The twin cities of St Paul and Minneapolis were picked over Seoul, South Korea, which hosted the 1988 Summer Olympics.

## Mota to run in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, Feb 21, (AP): Rosa Mota, 1988 Olympic gold medalist and two-time winner of both the Boston and Chicago marathons, has entered the March 5 Los Angeles marathon, it was announced today.

Mota, a 30-year-old runner from Portugal, won the 1988 women's Olympic marathon in 2 hours, 25 minutes and 40 seconds.

At the Los Angeles Olympic four years earlier, she collected a bronze, finishing behind Joan Benoit Samuelson and Grete Waitz.

Mota has been the fastest woman in the Boston marathon for each of the past two years.

## Lee takes Athletics to victory over Royals

ATHLETICS overcame Royals 11-7 as the Kuwait Little League season moved closer to the end. All the teams this Friday tried to perform at their best with nearly all the players keeping an eye on the coming All-star games.

Doug H. Lee, pitcher for the Athletics, did a great job for his team striking out 7 batters. He also had a great day batting with a triple and two singles. He was credited with 1 RBI. Athens had two doubles, driving in 2 runs while Paul, Yousef and Stanley also got on base with doubles. The Athletics weren't the only team hitting. The Royals rallied in the third inning, scoring 6 runs. Hitters were Jason, Shemlan and Shaab. The Royals couldn't keep the rally going and the game ended in Athletics favour.

## Earning

The Pirates and Cubs had a fantastic game. The Cub won 22-15 but both teams fought all the way to the finish. Big hitters for the Pirates were Khairy Abuljebain with a triple and a double earning 3 RBI's. Marwan Al Mousa had a triple, driving in 2 runs. Joshua Diemler had a double in the third bringing in 2 runners and Osama Abuljebain had a double bringing in 2 more runs for the team.

Hitters for the Cubs were Mohammed, Ale, Bassel, Jordan and Nader each hitting triples and earning RBI's. Ale had 2 triples and a double driving in 3 runs for the Cubs. Bassel earned 4 RBI's with only 2 times at bat and Jordan earned 3 RBI's. The Cubs were just too much for the Pirates.

Next up were the Tigers and the Indians. Indians won for the



Pirates: trying to put up a brave face during their game

first time last week and were ready to repeat the win. But the Tigers had other plans for the Indians. Rami Nammam had 2 great hits for the Tigers, bringing in 3 runs. Kidah earned 2 RBI's on his base hit. Aisha Fathalla had a double and 2 singles. Ahmed also had a double and 2 singles driving in 4 runs. Jumana brought in 2 runs on a single and a double while Nawaf Al Ghanim brought in 1 run on his single.

Ali the pitcher for the Tigers, had a triple and a double bringing in 2 runs. The Indians had some great hitters with Bader Al Anzi's double earning him 3 RBI's, Ahmad Al Fani had a

home run bringing 3 runs in, Meshal Al Khabbaz had a double in the second inning and a home run in the third. The Indians just got started too late. At the end of four innings the Tigers won 21-15.

The Mets faced the Blue Jays, giving the fans a real exciting game. The Blue Jays took an early lead with runs scored by Rave and Rame. But the Mets put a stop to the Blue Jays by keeping them from scoring in the next three innings.

The fifth inning saw the Blue Jays get a rally going, scoring 4 runs but it just wasn't enough. The Mets rallied in the second inning scoring 7 runs. The only

## CHESS

### Karpov held to draw in second game

LINARES, Spain, Feb 21, (Reuters): Former world champion Anatoly Karpov continued without a win in an international chess tournament here yesterday, drawing his second round match against Boris Gulkov of the Soviet Union.

British grandmaster Nigel Short, who beat Karpov in the opening round, adjourned against Hungary's Lajos Portisch, mounting a Dutch defence after losing the initiative in the middle game.

Iceland's Johan Hjartarson beat Alexander Beliavsky of the Soviet Union after 40 moves using a Ruy Lopez opening.

Arthur Yusupov of the Soviet Union led the competition after the second day with a win and a draw.

**Second round results:**  
Ljubomir Ljubolevic (Yugoslavia) vs Artur Yusupov (Soviet Union) match drawn.

Johan Hjartarson (Iceland) beat Alexander Beliavsky (Soviet Union) and Boris Gulkov (Soviet Union) match drawn.

Lajos Portisch vs Nigel Short (Britain) match adjourned.

Vasily Ivanchuk (Soviet Union) vs Jan Timman (Netherlands) match adjourned with Ivanchuk in advantage.

Leading positions after two rounds:  
1. Yusupov 1 1/2 points  
2. Short and Hjartarson one point, one match adjourned.  
3. Ljubolevic and Gulkov 1/2 point and one match adjourned.



Aref Essa (right) presents the trophy to Zabeeruddin.

## Unity defeat Starlite for Royals Trophy

UNITY Cricketers won the Rothmans Royals Trophy for the first time when they beat Starlite by 27 runs in the final at the Ahmadi ground on Friday.

Unity recovered from 146 for six to reach 226 for nine in their 45 overs. Starlite started off badly and were out of the game throughout their innings. They were all out for 189 in 39 overs.

Ejaz and Inam opened the innings for Unity and put on 35 runs for the first wicket before Ejaz Butt bowled the latter for 14. Dawood scored 15 before he was caught by Maqsood Sr to leave Unity at 75 for two.

## Trouble

Razzaq and Ejaz seemed to be in full control before Razzaq was run out for 17. Unity soon lost Babar, Ejaz, and Lewis to put themselves in some trouble at 146 for six.

Shabbir hammered a quick 30. Danny contributed 23 and Rafiq Butt remained unbeaten on 46 as Unity got back into the match.

Qayyum took the wickets of Shabbir, Dawood and Chris to finish with figures of three for 34 in eight overs.

Chasing 227 for victory, Starlite ran quickly into trouble when they lost Iqbal with only two runs on the board. Things became worse when Shehzad was

bowled by Shabbir and Starlite were 17 for two.

Qayyum also went back to the pavilion adding only three runs. Ilyas and Maqsood Sr, however, tried to pull their team out of trouble. They put on 40 runs for the fourth wicket but Ilyas ran himself out for 19 to put his team back on the defensive.

Starlite still had a chance of taking the game as long as Maqsood remained at the wicket but the fall of Badar and Iqbal put a lot of pressure on him.

Maqsood was finally out for 63 after trying to force the pace as game neared its end.

Rafiq and Inam combined to dismiss Ejaz, Maqsood Jr, Sohail and Mansoor. Starlite's fight ended when the whole team was out for 189.

Inam took five catches behind the wicket while Rafiq Butt took four wickets for 38 runs while Danny and Dawood took two wickets each.

Rafiq Butt took the Man of the Match award. The trophy was presented to Zabeeruddin Babar, the Unity skipper, by Aref Essa — the marketing manager of Tobacco Exporters International.

The match was supervised by Badaruddin Khatib of Kogan and Anjum Raza of Morning Stars.

## Soviets institute new policy against drug abuse in sport

MOSCOW, Feb 21, (UPI): The Soviet Union has instituted a new "get tough" policy against drug abuse in sports that provides for a two year suspension from competition for a first offence and a life-time ban for a second offence, the Meditsinskaya Gazeta newspaper said today.

The official newspaper of the country's medical profession quoted the deputy chairman of the state sports committee, Vasily Gromyko, as saying the new policy was in line with those in Western countries.

## Positive

The newspaper said the first Soviet athlete to be hit with a two year ban under the new punishment code was speedskater Ludmila Filimonova who tested

positive for a banned substance at the European women's championships in Berlin Jan 14-15.

The report said Filimonova claimed that her home doctor had given her a contraceptive pill that contained a banned hormone. Neither she nor the doctor were aware of the presence of the banned drug in the contraceptive.

Previously there was no code of punishment listed for drug offences and each incident was judged on a case-by-case basis that led to frequent cover-ups and selective punishments, the newspaper said.

Often athletes deemed to have greater potential were pardoned by administrators and allowed to continue competition without any hindrance.

But the new code lays down firm guidelines for offenders. The report, however, did not outline what if any appeal procedures exist under the new code.

## Mukesh lifts Flying Arrows over Hubara

FLYING ARROWS stepped up their bid for the Aresoon Thursday League title with a six-wicket victory over favourites Hubara at the Ahmadi grounds.

Arrows' skipper Mukesh Mirchandani led his team from the front with a defiant innings of 59 to enable reach the target of 165 set by Hubara. Mukesh was well supported by his vice-captain Francis, who hammered a quick 31. He took 14 runs off Jimmy James in his first over.

Munawar Lubanwala also batted well for his 33. Arrows needed 15 runs off the last two overs but Salim and Ashok Sitarani took 10 off the penultimate over to end the match with one ball to spare in the last over.

Jimmy James was the most successful Hubara bowler with two wickets for 39. Coulson took one for 10.

## Forced

Earlier in the morning, Hubara suffered a setback when Craig Shipton was forced to retire with a back injury. He seemed to be in control of the game before he left the crease when batting on 65.

Elphinstone and Shipton were well settled and looked to take Hubara past the 200 mark before Elphinstone was out for 53 and Shipton had to retire.

The latter batsmen were restricted by Ashok Sitarani and Vijay Samuel. Ashok picked up one wicket for 33 and Vijay one for 33 as Hubara scored 164 for six in the 24 allotted overs.

Arrows now meet BKME in their next match.

## Piquet may be released from hospital

VIAREGGIO, Italy, Feb 21, (AP): Brazilian Formula One driver Nelson Piquet, who fractured a rib in a boating accident, may be released from the hospital in a few days, doctors reported yesterday.

Claudio Costa, a doctor who specializes in treating the injuries of auto and motorcycle racers, said X-ray examinations showed that the rib did not cause any damage to the pulmonary pleura.

"Piquet will undergo additional medical examinations Tuesday and may leave the hospital the following day," Costa said.

He said that the driver's chest was bandaged, but could not immediately say when he will be able to resume racing.

The doctor said Piquet may start in the Grand Prix of Brazil next month "with the necessary precautions to protect the injured part."

## Test

Piquet, 36, will drive for the British team Lotus-Judd in the forthcoming world Formula One championship season. He was scheduled to make several test runs in his new car prior to the Brazilian Grand Prix, the inaugural event of the competition on March 26.

The Brazilian ace, a three-time world Formula One champion, fractured his sixth left rib on Sunday when he skidded and fell on the deck of his new yacht "Pilar Rossi", anchored in this Tuscan port, west of Pisa.

Piquet, a veteran sailor, had his new yacht delivered to the port of Viareggio three days before the accident.

## Lanka Colts edge CCK

LANKA COLTS (Trico) beat CCK by six runs in a Burud Trophy match at the EPI ground on Friday.

After a good start by openers Ossen and skipper Hiran, Colts stumbled to 72 for four. Roy and Vimal put on 45 runs before the former was out for 23.

Vimal remained unbeaten on 22 as Colts reached 125 for seven. For CCK, Rifat and Saeed took three and two wickets respec-

tively. Facing a run-rate of five runs an over, CCK ran into some accurate Colts bowling. Some good catches by Adi and Carlisle put the pressure on CCK.

Zahir hit 19. Reizmir 41, Faisal 11, Saif 14 and Saeed 15 as CCK scored 119 for eight in 25 overs.

For Colts, Lal took two wickets while Adi, Solomonz and Hiran took one each.

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## SPORTS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1990

## British government reviews stand after setback

LONDON, Feb 21. (AP): The British government was reviewing its position today after plans to introduce Europe's first compulsory membership programme for soccer fans suffered a major setback.

The House of Lords late yesterday voted to enact the programme division by division, starting with the top-ranked Division 1, rather than cover the entire 92-team, four-division English League at the same time as originally intended.

The Conservative government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher introduced the bill last month in hopes of having it in place by 1990. But the Lords' vote, 124-121, left that deadline almost impossible to meet, lawmakers on all sides said.

**Pushed**  
They noted that Sports Minister Colin Moynihan, as a top official of the department of the environment, will be tied up with another controversial bill on privatising water authorities and cannot bring the soccer-membership plan to the House of Commons until the water bill is out of the way.

Thatcher has pushed for the bill as a last-resort measure to clean up English soccer's image of fan violence.

England's soccer clubs have been banned from European Cup tournaments since the riots by Liverpool fans left 39 people dead at the Champions Cup final in Brussels, Belgium, in May 1985, and more than 300 English fans were arrested in West Germany last summer during the European Soccer Championships, where the national team took part.

Soccer club officials generally have opposed the membership plan, saying it would drive away occasional spectators and increase costs while doing nothing to prevent trouble away from stadiums.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Jelen triumphs

LYONS, France, Feb 21. (UPI): Davis Cup international Eric Jelen overpowered fellow West German Patrick Baur 6-1, 6-1 today to advance to the second round of a \$261,000 Grand Prix tennis tournament.

### Title fight

MEXICO CITY, Feb 21. (Reuters): World Boxing Council light flyweight champion German Torres of Mexico will defend his title against South Korean Lee Yulwoo in March, the WBC announced yesterday.

### Unauthorised bouts

MEXICO CITY, Feb 21. (Reuters): The World Boxing Council (WBC) said yesterday that it plans to issue international identity cards to fighters as a means of preventing unauthorised bouts.

### Sports officials

HARARE, Zimbabwe, Feb 21. (AP): Campaigners seeking a tougher sports boycott of white-ruled South Africa have met with South African sports officials in Zimbabwe, it was reported today.

### GP leaders

NEW YORK, Feb 21. (AP): Jackie Joyner-Kersey, seeking her second women's overall Mobil Grand Prix title in three years, and distance runner Steve Scott are the leaders going into Friday night's Mobil Indoor Track and Field Championships at Madison Square Garden.

### NBA draft

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb 21. (AP): Wayne Tisdale, the second player taken in the 1985 NBA draft, was traded to Sacramento yesterday by the Indiana Pacers, who have lost 10 in a row and have the League's third-worst record.

### Matikanen wins

LAHTI, Finland, Feb 21. (AP): Marjo Matikanen edged Marja-Liisa Kirvesniemi by two seconds today to win the women's 15-kilometre classical style cross-country ski race at the World Nordic Ski Championships, leading Finland to another sweep of the medals.

### Murphy's Cup

LONDON, Feb 21. (Reuters): The club golfer's most popular scoring system, Stableford, makes its first official appearance on the European professional tour this year. It will be used in a new £160,000 (\$283,000) event, named the Murphy's Cup, at the St Pierre Club, Chesham, Wales, from August 16 to 19, the same date as the PLM Open in Sweden.

## COLOMBIA STAY IN HUNT FOR QUARTERFINAL SPOT

# Iraqis surprise Spaniards to top group

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia, Feb 21. (AP): Iraq pulled off an upset win against Spain yesterday on a day of unexpected results in the 16-nation World Youth Soccer Cup tournament being staged in four cities around Saudi Arabia.

The United States downed East Germany in Group C play at Jeddah, while Portugal squeaked past a nine-strong Nigeria in Group A at Riyadh to secure a place in the knock-out second phase in the under-19 contest.

Colombia kept alive faint hopes of qualifying with a win over Syria in Group B at Dammam. Two teams from each group go through to the quarter-finals.

### Vindicated

The young Iraqis upset the odds in Group D with a 2-0 win in the mountain resort city of Taif. Goals came from Karrem Mohammed Wali in the 40th minute and Hussein Shoaib Laith in the 51st.

The under-19 team also vindicated their seniors. The Iraqi national squad was dismantled in Baghdad a few days ago after a dismal showing in elimination games for the 1990 World Cup.

With a 1-0 win against Norway, the Iraqis need only a draw against Argentina tomorrow to clinch the group's top place.



Joao Pinto (right) of Portugal and Nigeria's Abulshi struggle for the ball. (Reuters wirephoto)

But they may still regret not grabbing a few more goals from the weak Spanish defence to raise their chances of reaching the quarter-finals. For the Group D team that reaches the knock-out second phase of the 16-team contest could still be the one with the best goal average.

A win by Argentina and by Spain against Norway, each with two points from two matches, could leave all three teams pressing for the two quarterfinal places.

There are four teams in each group in the 16-nation tournament whose finals are played



Mario Morgado (left) of Portugal escapes from Nigeria's Oneyemchere. (Reuters wirephoto)

on March 3.

In Jeddah, an outstanding performance by American goalkeeper Kasey Keller helped his team gain full points, and effectively pushed the East Germans out of the running.

Two strikes from counter-offensives by Troy Dayak (47th)

and Steve Snow off a penalty (89th) boosted the American side before their key match against favourites Brazil tomorrow.

Mali, also battling for the second spot, will play the East Germans in tomorrow's second match.

Portugal qualified after sweat-

ing it out against Nigeria, only scoring through Joao Pinto in the 78th after Ndika Ugboade and Michael Oneyemchere were sent off.

Nigeria battles Czechoslovakia for the other spot tomorrow with Portugal playing hosts Saudi Arabia, who already are out of running.

Colombia stayed in the hunt with a 2-0 victory over Syria, thanks to goals by Wilson Munoz (42nd) and Diego Osorio off a penalty in the 84th.

One point from the final game against the Soviet Union, already qualified from Dammam, could take Colombia through—but only if Costa Rica falters against Syria.

### Standings

Group standings (tabulate under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points)

Group A					
Portugal	2	0	0	2	0
Syria	2	1	1	2	2
Czechoslovakia	2	1	0	1	2
Saudi Arabia	2	0	2	1	0
Group B					
Costa Rica	2	0	0	2	0
Soviet Union	2	1	0	3	2
Colombia	2	1	0	2	1
Syria	2	0	2	1	5
Group C					
Brazil	2	0	0	7	0
United States	2	1	0	3	1
Mali	2	0	1	1	6
East Germany	2	0	2	0	4
Group D					
Iraq	2	0	0	3	0
Argentina	2	1	0	3	2
Spain	2	1	0	2	2
Norway	2	0	0	2	3

## Javer overcomes Van Rensburg

# Byrne stuns Fairbank for 2nd round

OAKLAND, Feb 21. (Reuters): Australian Jenny Byrne surprised eighth seed Ros Fairbank of South Africa 6-4 7-6 and Britain's Monique Javer surprised herself with a first round victory at the \$250,000 California women's tennis tournament yesterday.

Byrne, ranked 69 in the world, came up with one key service break to take the opening set. The Australian then capitalised on four errors by the 38th ranked Fairbank to win the second tiebreak 8-6 for an upset victory.

In other first round play, seventh seeded Nathalie Tauziat of France was an easy 6-2 6-2 winner over American Ely Hakami and Canadian Jill Hetherington controlled the third set to oust American Heather Ludloff 6-4 6-7 6-1.

Javer, 82 in the world, saved three match points in the dramatic 10th game of the decid-

ing set to defeat 54th-ranked South African Dinky van Rensburg 1-6 6-4 7-6 in a baseline duel that lasted just over two hours.

Javer has won just three singles matches since taking the title at the Singapore Open last April. This first round win was her first successful match since last September.

### Forgot

"I'm surprised I won a match. It has been quite a long time and I almost forgot how to do it. This win is good for my confidence. I need to keep going like this," said Javer.

Van Rensburg was the far steadier of the two in controlling the opening set, but the South African struggled with her serve in dropping the second.

Van Rensburg worked her way to a 5-4 lead in the final set and had three match points on her own serve, but gave two away on costly double faults and lost

her third opportunity to win the match on a forehand error.

Javer pushed the set into a tiebreak by breaking the South African and holding her own serve. The Briton won the tiebreak 7-5 with the help of three errors by Van Rensburg.

Fifth-seeded Patty Fendick, aiming to break into the world's top 20 players, beat Ann Hendrickson, 6-2 6-3.

Fendick, of the United States, is one of the pro tour's fastest rising players, catapulting from No. 78 to No. 22 last year and winning two singles and six doubles titles, one of them with her sometime-doubles partner Hendrickson.

"I have rather nebulous goals," Fendick said. "I'm ranked 21 now, but I intend to be ranked in the top 20, but I'll be playing in bigger tournaments."

Fendick, 23, used a varied power game, including a decep-

tive topspin lob to beat compatriot Hendrickson, ranked 75th. Fendick broke Hendrickson's serve three times in the first set and once in the second.

Also yesterday, it was announced that Monica Seles, 15, of Yugoslavia, had to withdraw because of a sprained ankle. Seles, who turned pro a week ago, was replaced by Andrea Holikova of Czechoslovakia.

### Against

First-round play was to continue today, with third-seeded Zina Garrison of the United States playing against compatriot Elise Burgin, and second-seeded Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union taking on Camille Benjamin of the United States.

Top-seed Martina Navratilova, the defending champion seeking her fifth title here, is scheduled to play against Kathy Rinaldi of the United States tomorrow.

FAIRFAX, Virginia, Feb 21. (UPI): Steffi Graf says she has a long way to go before she reaches her peak in the sport she dominates at age 19.

"You see it with the other players—they improve and they get to their best when they are, maybe, 23, 24 or 25," said West Germany's Graf, the world's top-ranked player. "That's when they get to their high level."

Graf played at an amazingly high level in the Virginia Slims of Washington on Sunday, winning the first 20 points in a 6-1, 7-5 triumph over Zina Garrison in the tournament final.

### Career

Graf has won both tournaments she entered in 1989 and did not lose so much as a set in either the Australian Open or the Virginia Slims of Washington. She has won 32 singles titles already in her career, including a tour-best 11 in each of the past two years, and has won the last five Grand Slam events.

Graf said extending her Grand Slam streak is not a concern right now.

"There's a long way until the next one and my mind's not on it at all," said Graf, who this spring will try for her third consecutive French Open title in the next Grand Slam event.

The West German teenager, \$60,000 richer after her Washington triumph, already is fourth in career earnings in women's tennis, with nearly \$3.49 million. Graf does not seem to need to look over her shoulder at the gaining competition, but she is wary.

"The other players are trying to improve themselves, to play more aggressively and to get more fit. They are rising, that's

for sure," said Graf.

Graf has had an easy time in the past year, posting a 73-2 match record in 1988 and a 12-0 match record thus far in 1989. But she still has plenty of goals.

"I always try to play well, if it's in practice or in a tournament or whenever," Graf said. "I didn't lose a set (in Washington), okay, so maybe I'll try to repeat that. There's always something I'm going for."

### Dominance

Garrison, the world's ninth ranked player, dismissed suggestions that Graf's dominance is detrimental to the sport.

"It's good whenever a person is doing anything extremely well because you're going to get people to come out and watch women's tennis," Garrison said. "People might not say that they want to come out, but they're going to come out because they want to see just how great she is."

Garrison said Graf is already accorded the same kind of respect that had been given to Martina Navratilova when she dominated the sport in the early- and mid-'80s.

"I think when Martina was at the level that Steffi is now she had the respect of the players every time she walked onto the court. When you're No. 1 and you've proved yourself to be No. 1, then, naturally, you're going to have a certain amount of respect," Garrison said.

### Basically

"I think people are getting closer and closer to playing her, Garrison said. "A person like Gabby (Gabriela Sabatini) can compete with her and Lori McNeil is a person who plays her well every time she goes on the court with her. There are people out there who have a chance."

Garrison said Graf's game still has some shortcomings, although fewer all the time.

"She still doesn't come in (to the net) very much," Garrison said. "But the way she hits the ball, she can basically do whatever she wants when she gets to the net. But Steffi's No. 1 in the world."

## Wheaton upsets Stoltenberg

PHILADELPHIA, Feb 21. (Reuters): The two most recent world junior champions suffered contrasting fates in the first round of the \$602,500 US Pro Indoor Tennis Championships yesterday.

Australian Jason Stoltenberg, who held the crown in 1988, was ousted by American David Wheaton 6-4 6-2, while qualifier Nicolas Pietrangola, the reigning junior champion from Venezuela, stopped Czech-born American Michael Kures, another qualifier, 7-6 6-3.

Stoltenberg, surprisingly, had never played on a supreme court, one of the most widely used sur-

faces on the circuit, and could not afford his game to the rubberised court.

"It was a lot faster than I expected," said Stoltenberg. "The ball was jumping on me, plus he served better than me, that was the key. I didn't feel comfortable on it and I wasn't comfortable moving on it."

Wheaton, ranked 246 places below the Australian at 321 in the world, had previously lost to Stoltenberg in the French Open Juniors in 1987.

I was psyched to win because I have been doing well over the last few months. I have taken my ranking from the 800's to the

300's," said Wheaton, who must face second seeded world number three Boris Becker in the second round.

Pietrangola, who won the Wimbledon and French and US Open junior titles, displayed experience beyond his years to overcome Kures with a steady baseline game.

In other first round action, Milan Srejber of Czechoslovakia gave up a set then rallied to beat Japan's Shuzo Matsuo 3-6 6-3 6-4 and Finland's Veli Paloheimo scored a 6-4 6-4 over Australian Simon Youl to set up a meeting with top seed Andre Agassi.

## Potter edges past Torres

WICHITA, Kan. Feb 21. (Reuters): Top seed Barbara Potter led three seeded players into the second round of the \$100,000 Kansas women's tennis tournament yesterday with a 6-4 6-4 win over fellow American Michelle Torres.

Potter, who won this tournament in 1987, third-seeded Italian Raffaella Reggi and fourth-seeded American Susan Sloane all advanced with straight set victories.

Reggi, ranked 23 in the world, rolled to a 6-3 6-1 victory over French qualifier Sophie Amich, while Sloane eliminated Switzerland's Eva Krapf 6-4 6-2.

## Bruno's corner struggles to heal wounds

LAS VEGAS, Feb 21. (Reuters): Frank Bruno's camp scrambled today like busy cutmen in a fighter's corner to stop the damage caused by Bruno's recent charge that the Las Vegas Hilton was treating him and his entourage, "like dogs."

In a hastily-arranged news conference, Bruno and no less than five advisers—including an American lawyer—fell over themselves to apologise for any negative impression the British challenger had felt about the Hilton, which is promoting Saturday's title fight against heavyweight champion Mike Tyson.

Bruno arrived last week from Phoenix, Arizona, where he had been training for the fight and was irked that he had to wait to get into his room. He was also disturbed that the Hilton had not yet provided special T-shirts for him and his camp.

Bruno told a radio reporter afterward that "they are treating us like dogs."

Hilton executives, who, if pressed, could probably find a way of holding up some of the \$3.8 million Bruno is getting for the fight, were very upset at the Briton's remarks.

Thus the news conference, which was opened by attorney James Binns.

"If there was any lack of cour-

tesy or perceived lack of courtesy it was non realistic. It wasn't something that should have been subject to headlines in British newspapers."

"People at the Hilton are more than pleased to host Frank Bruno, the number-one rated heavyweight contender in the world," Binns said.

Perhaps thinking he had not done enough to close the wound, Binns added: "The leadership of the Las Vegas Hilton has lived up to the scintilla of every word...of its contractual obligations."

Still working hard, Binns went on to call Hilton executives gentlemen who were happy to host Bruno and help him get a chance to fight for the heavyweight title. He also said they like Bruno "as a person and respect him as a man."

British promoter Jarvis Astarie weighed in, saying he endorsed everything Binns had said. Then it was the fighter's turn.

A sheepish Bruno said that he had not intended to malign the Hilton, that the hotel's Hilton staff were "beautiful people" and that his remark had "just slipped out of my mouth."

Meanwhile, Tyson's trainer refuses to join the Bruno death-watch which has many ringers predicting the heavyweight boxing champion will have the



Tyson: hopes to enter ring at about 220 pounds

challenger counting the lights on the ceiling no later than the third round.

But reading between the lines it is clear that trainer Jay Bright, an old friend of Tyson's brought to camp only about a month ago, does not think Bruno is much of a threat to the champion's 35-0 record.

"Well, he must have done something right to be ranked so high," Bright told Reuters yesterday, after being asked about predictions that Tyson will hardly break a sweat against the Briton, a 7-1/2 to one underdog.

"Bruno has been around. He's a good puncher," said Bright,

who then quickly amended his comment to "he can punch a little."

Bright said he did not think Tyson was aware of predictions of an early victory and even if he was they would not cool the 22-year-old champion's competitive fires.

"Michael has in his mind to fight the best fight he can," said Bright, adding that Tyson will finish sparring tomorrow or Thursday and that the undisputed champion is "mentally and physically ready" for the scheduled 12-round fight in the Las Vegas Hilton Convention Centre. "We're just putting the

finishing touches on."

Bright said that Tyson, who had ballooned to about 250 pounds (113 kg) since he demolished Michael Spinks in 91 seconds in his last fight in June, would probably enter the fight at about 220 pounds (99 kg).

The 27-year-old Bruno, who is not scheduled to spar this week, is expected to weigh about 225 pounds (102 kg).

Tyson's personal problems, including his recent divorce from actress Robin Givens after a tumultuous year-long marriage and a dispute with his manager, never have and never will affect him in the ring, Bright said.

Bright said he could not confirm widely-accepted reports that Tyson's former trainer, Kevin Rooney—fired by the champion several months ago—is suing the fighter for breach of a verbal contract.

But he said such an action would not phase the champion. "He's a professional. He does what he has to do, period," Bright said.

Bright was asked to rank the 32-2 Bruno's chances in light of Tyson's destruction of Spinks, who was a more highly-regarded opponent than the Briton.

Bright did not answer, but burst into laughter.

"Michael put Spinks out like a cigarette butt."

## Italy spoils for choice of marksmen

PISA, Italy, Feb 21. (Reuters): World Cup hosts Italy play Denmark in an international soccer friendly tomorrow faced with an unaccustomed problem—they are spoilt for choice of goalkeepers.

In a nation whose League teams traditionally buy foreigners to score their goals, Italy has thrown up a clutch of top marksmen of its own this season.

"It's the sort of difficulty I like," said manager Azzeglio Vicini. "Better to have too many scorers than too few. If I make the wrong choice, the damage will be minimal."

Aldo Serena of First Division leaders Internazionale, joint League top scorer on 12 goals, looks set to resume his strike partnership with Gianluca Vialli, having regained his place against Scotland in December after an 18-month absence.

Vialli, with 10 goals from 24 international appearances, already has a place booked to the 1990 finals, but who will join him up front is uncertain.

If not Serena, it could be either Roberto Baggio or Stefano Borgovono of Fiorentina, both with nine goals this season, or Roberto Mancini, who partners Vialli at Sampdoria.

All three are in Vicini's squad for the game against an inexperienced Denmark, seeking to rebuild for the World Cup.

Midfielder Jan Molby, of English League champions Liverpool, who served six weeks in prison last year for reckless driving, is back in the Danish squad after five months absence.

Manager Sepp Pointek is expected to experiment with young strikers including Brian Laudrup, brother of Juventus star Michael Laudrup.

The Danes put up a poor show in a four-nation tournament in Malta this month and face a major challenge in April away to Bulgaria in a World Cup qualifier.

### Teams

Italy (probable) — Walter Zenga, Giuseppe Bergomi, Paolo Maldini, Franco Baresi, Riccardo Ferri, Nicola Bert, Roberto Donadoni, Fernando de Napoli, Gianluca Vialli, Giuseppe Giannini, Aldo Serena.

Denmark — to be named.

## Roma replace Liedholm as manager

ROME, Feb 21. (Reuters): Italian First Division soccer club Roma have ousted Swede Nils Liedholm as manager after a string of poor results and replaced him with youth side trainer Luciano Spinosi.

A club statement issued late yesterday said Roma president Dino Viola had invited Liedholm, 66, to become his personal adviser. Liedholm took Roma to the League title in 1983 and rejoined the club in 1987 after managing AC Milan